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Celebrity pg 40

Johansson, Reynolds tie knot in Canada

NDP vows poverty fix

Layton unveils platform

JACQUES BOISSINOT/THE CANADIAN PRESS

NDP Leader Jack Layton applauds his candidates as he delivers his electoral platform in front of supporters yesterday in Toronto.

A New Democratic government would eliminate poverty in Canada within 12 years, NDP Leader Jack Layton says.

Layton set the ambitious target in his party's $51.6-billion, 57-page election platform, released yesterday in Toronto.

"Don't you think it's time we finally put an end to the shame of child poverty?" he said to about 200 cheering supporters at a Broadview Avenue hall.

> **"Jack Layton's ... socialist mentality is as backwards as Stephen Harper's ... conservative ideology."**
> Stéphane Dion

Speaking to reporters after his speech, Layton made no apologies for setting the aggressive 2020 deadline.

"This is the goal. You know something, if you don't set a goal you're never going to get there," Layton said.

The most expensive tool in the NDP's anti-poverty arsenal is a new $17.4-billion child-benefit plan that would pay low-income families up to $416 per month per child.

The party, which is promising balanced budgets, maintains it can pay for its commitments by cancelling Prime Minister Stephen Harper's corporate tax cuts, including cancelling the planned reduction of the rate to 19 per cent, returning it to 22.12 per cent.

Speaking in Toronto, Liberal Leader Stéphane Dion was harshly critical of Layton's corporate tax plans, saying they would kill jobs, and of the child-benefit plan, which he called unrealistic.

No country in the world or any NDP provincial government is taxing corporations at the rate Layton plans, Dion told reporters.

"Jack Layton's old-fashioned socialist mentality is as backwards as Stephen Harper's old-fashioned conservative ideology," he said.

Conservative incumbent Pierre Poilievre, who is running in the riding of Nepean-Carleton, yesterday slammed the NDP program as "unaffordable."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Election 2008

U.S. inches closer to bailout plan

ECONOMY Congressional leaders and the White House agreed yesterday to a $700-billion US rescue of the ailing financial industry after legislators insisted on sharing spending controls with the administration. The biggest U.S. bailout in history won the tentative support of both presidential candidates and goes to the House of Representatives for a vote today. The plan would give the administration broad power to use billions of taxpayer dollars to purchase devalued mortgage-related assets held by cash-starved financial firms.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Dentist going the distance with marathon

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Paul Newman remembered

Election 2008 pg 10-12

- Mike Tennant on the dark side of ads
- Dion a woman's man
- Harper skips online poverty video
- Countdown to debate
- Campaign quotes

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Most ready to hang up on marketing calls: Poll

Nearly two-thirds of Canadians are tired of annoying supper-hour telemarketing calls and plan to register their phone numbers on the CRTC's new national do-not-call list, which takes effect tomorrow, a poll suggests.

The poll conducted for the Marketing Research and Intelligence Association indicates 51 per cent of Canadians are aware of the no-call list, up from 44 per cent at the same time last year.

Once respondents were informed of the list, 64 per cent said they planned to register their numbers.

The poll for the association, which represents the majority of the country's market research companies, also suggests 61 per cent of Canadians believe exemptions from the no-call list — which includes pollsters, researchers and government agencies — will not affect the list's ability to stop calls from unwanted telemarketers.

The poll by Acrobat Research Ltd. of 1,000 people was conducted from Aug. 7 to Aug. 14, 2008, and is considered accurate to within plus or minus 3.1 percentage points, 19 times out of 20.

Once a number is on the no-call registry, telemarketers will be barred from dialling that number, or face a hefty fine if they do.

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Teen shot in leg outside nightclub
A 17-year-old is in hospital after she was shot in the leg outside the El Magnate nightclub on Beverly Hills Drive near Jane Street and Wilson Avenue around 3 a.m. yesterday. The girl was in a crowd outside the club. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Local

End of the line for TTC tickets

TTC adult tickets will no longer be accepted as valid fare starting this morning. Customers will have until Oct. 31 to exchange their tickets for tokens in person at the Bloor-Yonge station or the Metropass Discount Plan office at Davisville station. TTC commissioners approved elimination of the adult ticket due to counterfeiting. Student, senior and child tickets remain valid and will continue to be sold and accepted by the TTC. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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Tomorrow's Metro

Entertainment

Kathleen Edwards is one of 10 Canadian artists vying for the Polaris Music Prize tonight. Find out who won.

metronews.ca
What's online today.

Read Guidy Mamann on the legal status of proxy marriages from other countries at www.metronews.ca/live
Watch as Jim Flaherty says voters care more about schools than income trusts at www.metronews.ca/canada

Lotteries

Friday, Sept. 26
Super 7 10, 15, 16, 25, 29, 41 & 43. Bonus 12.
Saturday, Sept. 27
Lotto 6/49 11, 19, 29, 33, 44 & 46. Bonus 34.
Ontario 49 1, 20, 21, 24, 44 & 45. Bonus 3.
Sunday, Sept. 28
Ontario Pick 3 635
Ontario Pick 4 5948
Encore 0978733
Daily Keno 2, 4, 12, 13, 15, 17, 18, 22, 28, 32, 37, 40, 45, 54, 55, 56, 58, 61, 62, 67.

These results are not official.

Still running after 197 events

Toronto dentist hopes to run 200th marathon at home

A few minutes after Rick Rayman was finishing his 197th marathon, Mary Ancona of Burlington was finishing her first.

Both crossed the finish at the Scotiabank Toronto Waterfront Marathon in a little over 4½ hours.

Despite the difference in age — Rayman is 62, Ancona is 39 — and their marathon experience, both agreed they'll probably do it again.

Rayman, in fact, has booked marathons next week in Prince Edward County and the following week in Pennsylvania.

That will mean the Toronto dentist can run his 200th lifetime marathon at home on Oct. 19 in the Toronto Marathon, which starts in North York and heads down Yonge Street.

Why does he do it? He's pretty busy outside of running, after all. He's a practising dentist, treating patients four days a week, and teaching at University of Toronto on Fridays.

> **"I like being around runners, I like the lifestyle; even after 197 marathons, it's still a rush finishing a marathon."**
> Rick Rayman

"I don't know," he admits. "I like being around runners, I like the lifestyle — even after 197 marathons, it's still a rush finishing a marathon."

Ancona decided to run this year because of her next birthday, which will be her 40th. "I figured now's the time to do it."

In total, the 15,000 participants in the full marathon, half-marathon and 5-kilometre walk raised $1.2 million for 63 charities.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

SAUL PORTO/TOP NEWS

Kenneth Mungara from Kenya prays after winning the Toronto Waterfront Marathon yesterday.

Kenyan sets fastest marathon pace

WINNER Kenyan Kenneth Mungara won the Toronto Waterfront Marathon yesterday in two hours 11 minutes 0.9 seconds.

Organizers had hoped to see another course record, where last year Jobn Kelai of Kenya finished in 2:09:30, the fastest marathon ever run in Canada. But this year Kelai finished fifth.

However, Ethiopian marathoner Mulu Seboka, 22, set a course-record of 2:29:05 to win the women's event. Her time is more than four minutes faster than the record set last year by Asha Gigi, a fellow Ethiopian and this year's third-place finisher.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

News in brief

BRAWL A 16-year-old boy was stabbed in the back of the head during a brawl with a group of teens at John Garland Plaza near Finch Ave. W. and Martin Grove Rd. yesterday.
TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Man sought for sex assaults

SUSPECT Police are searching for a man they suspect of sexually assaulting several women while posing as a photographer around the Ryerson University and University of Toronto campuses.

A man in his 40s, carrying a knapsack and camera, has approached random women claiming to be a photographer for one of the universities.

The suspect asks the women to take their photo and, after leading them to a secluded area, sexually assaults them, police say.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Fashion **Model aspirations**

ENAS SUPERMODEL MEETS TORONTO

Aspiring models Mo Ninalowo, 22, and Erica Chang, 19, are two of the hundreds who registered at the Flaunt It If You Want It auditions on the LG Runway. Catch the auditions on YouTube, where the one with the most views gets to walk the runway at the LG Fashion Fusion Show at L'Oreal Fashion Week Oct. 20-25 in Toronto. Visit www.lg.ca/fashion for contest details.

Talks impasse keeps Viva buses off roads

TALKS A new work week has begun for 35,000 York Region commuters who must do without the strikebound Viva rapid bus system.

No talks are planned in the dispute that saw 165 drivers reject their union's recommended deal last week. Drivers walked off the job Thursday morning.

Officials of Veolia Transportation, the Illinois-based company that operates the service for the region, have said they don't know why the offer was turned down or what the drivers want. Some drivers have cited the lack of paid sick days as one sticking point but representatives of Amalgamated Transit Union, Local 113, aren't talking.

Don Gordon, York Region Transit general manager, said the region has stopped paying Veolia, the private company that gets about $20 million per year to run the 90 Viva buses. He said he's unaware if the ATU has replied to Veolia's offer to resume bargaining.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Man wanted in Brampton robbery
Police are hunting a man who robbed a Brampton bank in prime shopping hours on Saturday afternoon. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

School board's got 'grammer'

A student agenda distributed to 294 public schools in Toronto alone has a serious "grammer" error.

The heading atop page 136 in the junior edition of the agenda — sold to students in Grades 4, 5 and 6 across the Toronto District School Board for about $5 — is "Grammer/Punctuation." That page, and others at the back of the book, are supplied by Premier agendas.

"It's absolutely something we take seriously, and something we are extremely disappointed about," said board spokesperson Kelly Baker.

The board learned of the mistake from Trustee Sheila Cary-Meagher, who had received an e-mail from an irate parent who is a proofreader.

"I have, for a long time, been deeply depressed by the poor grammar and spelling of our employees at every level, and I'd assumed it was something we had done," said the Beaches-East York trustee. "I was feeling red-faced about it until I found out we paid somebody for it, but didn't check it," she said, adding it doesn't reflect well on the board. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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Has Adoption Touched Your Life?

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If you were involved in an adoption in Ontario, you need to know about an important change to your information and privacy rights.

Effective June 1, 2009, Ontario adoption records will be opened. This means adopted adults and birth parents will be given access to identifying information from birth records and adoption orders.

If the adoption order was made before September 1, 2008, adopted adults and birth parents can file a disclosure veto to prevent the release of the information.

If you want your identifying information to be kept private, **you should file a disclosure veto before June 1, 2009.**

No contact notices are also available.

To learn more about your rights to information and privacy regarding adoption, **visit www.ontario.ca/adoptioninfo or call 1-800-461-2156 (TTY 416-325-3408).**

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Ontario

Landmark store responds to article

HONEST ED Your "local" (Toronto Star) writer John Terauds has it all wrong.

Our motto "There's No Place ... Like This Place ... Anyplace!!, a cleverly designed 23,000-bulb sign by Honest Ed Mirvish, worn linoleum and terrazzo floors, autographed photos of the "greats" past and present from the entertainment world adorn the walls, bargains and fun!

We are grateful that we are still enjoying a following of GTA shoppers (locals), new immigrants, second- and third-generation clientele discovering our bargains, young families shopping for affordable buys. Honest Ed's remains a one-of-a-kind unique shopping experience still immensely enjoyed by thousands of locals daily.

When we held a 60th anniversary celebration on July 20, the store was packed with thousands of Torontonians and visitors alike.

The area known as Mirvish Village is now a BIA with one-of-a-kind interesting vendors who take pride in being part of this diverse, safe and vibrant community. Mirvish Village has received many praising editorials and is featured on CTV's My Toronto as a great destination to visit. Scruffy — no way, as your (Star) writer suggests.

RUSSELL LAZAR
GENERAL MANAGER
CHAIR, MIRVISH VILLAGE BIA

News in brief

ATTACK A motorist flagged down west of High Park yesterday morning was forced at gunpoint to drive to an isolated spot, beaten and told to hand over cash, police said. The driver stopped for a man on South Kingsway near The Queensway. Another man, with a gun, emerged from bushes and the driver was forced to drive to a secluded area of Lake Shore Boulevard where he was attacked, beaten, police said.
TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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253 Queen St. E., Unit 3
(905) 455-0005
4520 Ebenezer Road, Unit 6
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(905) 454-1389
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(905) 475-7101
9570 McCowan Rd., Unit 4
(905) 205-0115
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Autistic boy found safe and sound

An autistic boy, who police suspected was kidnapped by his father, has been found safe and sound. Hamilton police issued an Amber Alert last Monday, after Austin Large, 13, and his father Elias Large, left for a fishing trip in the North Bay-area on Friday morning, but the two never came home. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Canada

Queen's parties relatively peaceful

An army of police braced for a wild street party in Kingston, Ont., but they ended up having a relatively peaceful night. In past years, the Queen's University homecoming bash has gotten out of hand with drunken rowdies in the streets throwing bottles at police and even burning a car. However, even though the sea of revellers surged to more than 7,000 Saturday night, no one was seriously injured in the crushing crowds. At least 50 people were arrested. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Bracing for Kyle's fury

Fishermen along the southern coasts of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia tied up their boats and braced for potent winds as hurricane Kyle bore down on the region late yesterday.

By early evening, winds were gusting to 120 km/h in Baccaro Point on Nova Scotia's southwestern tip as Kyle continued its steady track north toward the Bay of Fundy.

In Clark's Harbour, N.S., fishing crews secured their lines in advance of the storm, which was predicted to skirt the province's southern flank and make landfall around Saint, John, N.B., sometime after midnight.

"Its going to be pretty bad around here," Donnie Ross said as he hurried across the bow of his fishing vessel in Cape Sable Island, N.S.

All of New Brunswick was under a rain warning while wind warnings were issued for New Brunswick's Bay of Fundy coastline and most of Nova Scotia.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Staying prepared

- Bill Lawlor of the New Brunswick Red Cross said they were checking equipment and supplies to meet any need that might arise, adding that households were warned to have enough food to carry a family through 72 hours.

Memorial **Tears for a fallen hero**

SEAN KILPATRICK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Doug Scott, second from right, father of fallen RCMP Const. Douglas A. Scott, wipes a tear yesterday as he's hugged by wife Marla, hidden, as they stand with sons Chad, left, and Layne during the 31st annual Canadian Police and Peace Officers Memorial Service in Ottawa.

News in brief

AFGHANISTAN Two Canadian soldiers are wounded after Taliban insurgents attacked a combat outpost in the Panjwai district of Afghanistan. One soldier is in serious but stable condition and the other has been released from medical care. Col. Jamie Cade said the attack began Saturday with small arms fire and progressed to rocket-propelled grenades. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Immigration makeover on hold for vote

POLITICS The Conservative government seems to be waiting for a majority government before it revolutionizes Canada's immigration system the way the Australians have, pollster Michael Adams said. Wholesale and "highly controversial" changes to the immigration system have the potential to alienate foreign-born Canadians and, as a result, little has been done to address the country's steadily deteriorating system, Adams said last week after a three-country forum on the competition for skilled migrants. "And they were wise to do so," said Adams of the Conservative approach so far. "They aren't a majority government."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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- 29.5 cubic feet (835L) of flexible cargo volume & a fold-flat front passenger seat
- 2.2L ECOTEC 4-cylinder engine with 155hp

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CITY: 9.2 L/100km (31 MPG▲

2009 COBALT

2009 Cobalt SS Coupe 1SA (with Z9U) model shown, $25,425 MSRP excluding freight.

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BI-WEEKLY/72 MONTHS/FREIGHT AND TAXES NOT INCLUDED		FOR 72 MONTHS‡	

DRIVE 925km
HWY ON ONE TANK OF GAS
HWY: 5.4 L/100km (52 MPG
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For the latest information, visit us at chevrolet.gm.ca, drop by your local Chevrolet Dealer or call us at 1-800-GM-DRIVE. ‡Purchase financing available for 72 months, available on 2009 Chevrolet Cobalt sedan XFE 1SP. Financing available on approved GMAC credit only. Down payment, trade and/or security deposit may be required. Monthly payment and cost of borrowing will vary depending on amount borrowed and down payment/trade. Example: $10,000 at 0%/1.78%, the monthly payment is $138.89/$146.54 for 72 months. Cost of borrowing is $0/$550.88. Freight and taxes are not included for bi-weekly payment. Bi-weekly payments based on a purchase price of $14,400 with $0 down payment. †Offer applies to the cash purchase of 2009 Chevrolet Aveo5 LS 1SM new or demonstrator model. Cash purchase price reflects discounts or other incentives that are only available when consumers opt for a cash purchase offer. By selecting lease or finance offers consumers are foregoing such discounts and incentives which will result in a higher effective interest rate. ♦Offer applies to the cash purchase of 2009 Chevrolet HHR LS 1SM new or demonstrator model. ††Freight ($1,725), license, insurance, registration, PPSA, administration fees and taxes are not included. Offers apply as indicated to the purchase of 2009 new or demonstration models of the vehicle equipped as described. Offers apply to qualified retail customers in the Ontario Chevrolet Dealer Marketing Association area only (including Outaouais and excluding Northwestern Ontario). Dealer order or trade may be required. Dealers may sell for less. Limited time offer which may not be combined with other offers. See your dealer for complete details. ▲2009 Aveo/Aveo5 model with manual transmission (with 45 L fuel tank). 2009 Cobalt LS XFE model with manual transmission (and 50 L fuel tank). 2009 HHR LS/Panel LS model with manual transmission (and 50 L fuel tank). Based on GM Testing in accordance with approved Transport Canada test methods. Your actual fuel consumption may vary. ▪2009 Cobalt LS XFE model with manual transmission (and 50 L fuel tank). 2009 HHR LS/Panel LS model with manual transmission (and 45 L fuel tank). Based on GM Testing in accordance with approved Transport Canada test methods. Your actual fuel consumption may vary. ◊2009 Aveo/Aveo5 vs. 2008 Aveo/Aveo5 with other offers. See your dealer. GM Positions and details. ‡‡Offer applies to purchase of 2009 Chevrolet Aveo5 LS 1SA new or demonstrator model. Cash purchase price reflects discounts or other incentives that are only available when consumers opt for a cash purchase offer. 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See your dealer for complete details. ▲2009 Aveo/Aveo5 model with manual transmission (with 45 L fuel tank). 2009 Cobalt LS XFE model with manual transmission (and 50 L fuel tank). 2009 HHR LS/Panel LS model with manual transmission (and 45

Fourth TD bank robbed in Kelowna

RCMP say there's been a fourth TD Canada Trust robbery in Kelowna, B.C. Police say the bank was robbed sometime Saturday afternoon. On Thursday, two Kelowna TD Banks were robbed, with another one hit last Monday. THE CANADIAN PRESS

On outskirts of Olympic glory

Many B.C. cities feel left out of 2010 infrastructure boom

How the tale of the two cities hosting the 2010 Olympics will end is anyone's guess, with many predicting the legacy will be a mix of the best and worst of times.

But in the cities outside Vancouver and Whistler, B.C., some people are less convinced it's an ending that will see them living happily ever after.

While both host cities and those nearby are getting millions in new and upgraded infrastructure, including badly needed housing, some on the outskirts of Olympic glory say they're getting hardly anything at all.

In Squamish, B.C., which sits along the Sea-to-Sky highway between the Vancouver and Whistler, Mayor Ian Sutherland rails against what he says are broken promises leaving his town bereft of lasting physical legacies from the Games.

Ian Sutherland

A new ferry terminal and service was promised to transport spectators to Squamish, where they were then to transfer to Whistler by bus.

That plan was cancelled.

An ice arena for Paralympic sledge hockey was also supposed to be built.

That plan was cancelled.

"At the end of the day, it's a fair amount of frustration for the people who live in Squamish," said Sutherland, who is running as a Liberal candidate in the current federal election.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Montreal cop couture cast in darker tones

TROUSERS Montreal police say the colourful military-style trousers they're now sporting are nothing more than a statement on lagging labour relations with the city. But a minority-relations expert says the camouflage combat-style pants could prove detrimental with a report due out soon into a fatal police shooting in August of a teenager in the city. Fo Niemi, co-founder of the Centre for Research-Action on Race Relations, says the seemingly innocent pressure tactic could cast police in a "soldier of fortune" light that will do little to help recent frosty relations between police and some residents. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Tories playing politics with killer, suit claims

A Canadian on American death row for 25 years is more likely to receive a lethal injection because of the Harper government's abrupt decision to stop seeking clemency for the killer, a lawsuit slated to be heard today argues.

The suit before Federal Court accuses the Tory government of illegally playing politics with Alberta native Ronald Smith's life and calls on Ottawa to press to have the sentence commuted.

"(The government's) abrupt abandonment of their promises and long-standing practice has now created severe detriment to (Smith)," the suit states. "In particular, he is now at enhanced risk of execution."

The case arose in the summer of 1982. The then-24-year-old Smith and two buddies from Red Deer, Alta., robbed two cousins, who offered them a ride in Montana and Smith shot the men. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Women belong in the House

At a women's rally in downtown Toronto for Liberal Leader Stéphane Dion there was finally a sign of wit and humour in an otherwise humourless campaign (for all parties), with T-shirts that read, "Women belong in the House." Buttons said, "It's a man's world, unless women vote." TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Election 2008

Why campaign ads are loathed

'It's the only really dishonest kind of advertising that's left': Ad legend

There's a unifying theme to campaign ads: Everybody seems to hate them.

Politicians hate that they reduce complex issues to 30-second elevator pitches, a context better suited for cynicism, fear and doubt than for inspiring voters.

Voters hate them for two reasons. First, they're disingenuous: Even the most rabid partisan can't believe anyone is so completely good, any opponent so completely evil, as these ads portray. Second, and less forgivable: They don't entertain. Most are just plain bad.

Yet the ad industry hates them most of all because — no kidding — campaign ads are exempt from the rules that govern ad content.

Canadian ads are bound by a code set by Advertising Standards Canada, an industry-run body that fields consumer complaints and can request that offending ads be pulled or revised.

Campaign ads running right now routinely trash several provisions of the code, notably its decree that advertisers shalt not "unfairly discredit, disparage or attack other products, services, advertisements or companies, or exaggerate the nature or importance of competitive differences."

AdVentures

Mike Tennant

Ah, but who cares? Because the code expressly exempts campaign ads from its restrictions.

American campaign ads have enjoyed similar immunity since the Supreme Court ruled they fall under the First Amendment right to free speech.

Campaign ads, then, enjoy freedom of speech, and the freedom to lie. Or at least to do to the truth what clowns do to long, skinny balloons. This is how the noun "swift boat" became a verb four years ago.

University of Texas advertising professor Jef I. Richards once lamented: "The law requires a paper towel ad to be scrupulously honest, but allows political candidates to lie without reproach. What's wrong with this picture?"

Ad legend David Ogilvy went further: "Political advertising ought to be stopped. It's the only really dishonest kind of advertising that's left. It's totally dishonest."

The irony, of course, is that many of the campaign ads you see are the product of advertising dream teams, hand-picked from top agencies. The trouble is, key creative decisions are too often handed down to them by political strategists in party war rooms; people unwilling to take the calculated creative risks that distinguish great advertising.

Which helps explain why campaign ads lower people's opinion of all advertising — if that's possible — and why it leaves party leaders looking like exhausted hockey fighters waiting, in vain, for a linesman to break them up.

Mike Tennant is a freelance ad writer and co-creator/writer of Terry O'Reilly and the Age of Persuasion on CBC Radio One.

Conservatives

Stephen Harper

Harper opts out of poverty video

COALITION Stephen Harper is facing criticism that he's ducking questions on how to help Canadians living in poverty, even as economic turmoil threatens to push more people over a fiscal cliff.

The prime minister is the only major party leader not appearing in a video prepared by a national anti-poverty coalition to be officially launched today on YouTube.

A sneak peek was to be posted yesterday at www.makepovertyhistory.ca/ontherecord.

It's part of a cross-country bid by the Assembly of First Nations and Make Poverty History — a coalition that includes 1,000 development agencies, unions, student groups and churches — to put poverty on the election radar.

Liberal Stéphane Dion, New Democrat Jack Layton, Elizabeth May of the Green party, and Gilles Duceppe of the Bloc Québécois all answer questions for the video On the Record.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Jim Flaherty says voters care more about schools than income trusts, at metronews.ca/Canada

15 days remain until the 2008 Canadian federal election

Bloc Québécois

Duceppe, polls differ on seats

MINORITY/MAJORITY Bloc Québécois Leader Gilles Duceppe says his party could still confine the Conservatives to a minority government, even as polls suggest otherwise.

The recent polls based on seats suggest the Tories could form a majority on Oct. 14.

Polls suggest a pan-Canadian collapse of support for the Liberals, which could mean the Conservatives won't have to rely on so many Quebec votes to win.

In fact, the Bloc could win more seats than any party in the province and still fall short of preventing a Conservative majority. THE CANADIAN PRESS

CHRIS YOUNG/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Liberal Leader Stéphane Dion speaks at a party celebration of women in politics yesterday as his wife, Janine Krieber, looks on in Toronto.

Liberals celebrate women in politics

With his party showing signs of losing the critical support of women voters, Liberal Leader Stéphane Dion is on the offensive.

At a rally in downtown Toronto Centre — Bob Rae's riding — Dion celebrated his 53rd birthday at a "celebration" of women in politics.

Dion boasted he's met his goal of women making up one-third of the Liberal ranks in this election.

The room was energized, and the rhetoric was heated. But it was perhaps a sign Dion is taking the polls — which he refuses to comment on — seriously.

The Liberal leader wasn't supposed to be here on his birthday.

His wife, Janine Krieber, was to be the headliner, but Dion said later the women candidates arrayed behind him clamoured for his appearance.

"I could not resist."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Numbers

- Dion said the 112 women running as Liberal candidates, out of 306, is the most of any party. The Conservatives are running 62 women of 307 candidates, and the NDP has 104 out of 305 candidates.

Airfares

Vancouver	Travel Oct 23 - Oct 29/wg	$139 + taxes & fees $205
Las Vegas	Travel Jan 11 - Jan 15/wg	$199 + taxes & fees $212
Manchester	Travel Oct 20 - Oct 26/ts	$199 + taxes & fees $451
Boston	Travel Nov 5 - Nov 12/aa	$289 + taxes & fees $110
Madrid	Travel Oct 6 - Oct 14/ts	$339 + taxes & fees $352
Beijing	Travel Oct 28 - Nov 4/ua	$699 + taxes & fees $413
Tel Aviv	Travel Nov 18 - Dec 2/os	$859 + taxes & fees $512

All-inclusive Holidays

Puerto Plata 4-Star — $208 + taxes & fees $368
Bahia Principe San Juan
INCLUDES roundtrip airfare, transfers and 7 nights 4-star all-inclusive accom. Departs Oct 5/sgn/5g. ADD relaxing catamaran cruise to the coral reefs of Sosua and spend a morning of snorkelling from $52.

Varadero 4.5-Star — $358 + taxes & fees $260
Oasis Varadero 1920
INCLUDES roundtrip airfare, transfers and 7 nights 4.5-star all-inclusive accom. Departs Oct 5/sgn/5g.

Mayan Riviera 5-Star — $585 + taxes & fees $327
Blue Bay Grand Esmeralda
INCLUDES roundtrip airfare, transfers and 7 nights 5-star all-inclusive accom. Departs Oct 25/swg/wg. ADD Chichen Itza day tour from $67.

Holidays

Las Vegas 4 Nights — $299 + taxes & fees $212
Circus Circus
INCLUDES roundtrip airfare and 4 nights 3-star accom on the Las Vegas Strip. Departs Jan 11/inf/wg.

California Fly & Drive — $529 + taxes & fees $241
INCLUDES airfare to San Francisco, return from Los Angeles and 8-day car rental to discover the the Golden State. Departs Nov 12/inf/ac. ADD 1-hour narrated tour aboard an authentic San Francisco motorized cable car from $21.

New York Getaway — $559 + taxes & fees $108
Best Western President
INCLUDES roundtrip airfare and 3 nights 3-star accom located in the heart of the Theatre District the week before Christmas. Departs Dec 15/inf/pd.

Cruise Holidays

BAHAMAS $159
Sovereign of the Seas + taxes & fees $81
INCLUDES 4-night Royal Caribbean cruise and onboard meals & entertainment. Sail roundtrip from Port Canaveral and visit Coco Cay and Nassau. Price includes port charges. Sails Oct 13.

Hawai'i — $549 + taxes & fees $159
Millennium
INCLUDES 11-night Celebrity cruise and onboard meals & entertainment. Sail from Ensenada to Honolulu and visit Maui, Kona and Kauai. Price includes port charges. Sails Oct 6.

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Election 2008

CANADIAN PRESS FILE PHOTO

Bloc Québécois Leader Gilles Duceppe, left, and former Liberal Leader Paul Martin listen to Conservative Leader Stephen Harper during the English leaders' debate in 2006. This year's debates are scheduled for Wednesday and Thursday.

Different tactics for prime-time sparring

Leaders getting ready for 2 debates this week

Liberal Leader Stéphane Dion is hoping to land a knockout punch, NDP Leader Jack Layton says he'll be auditioning to be prime minister and Stephen Harper is just hoping to "survive."

Green party Leader Elizabeth May, who had to fight to be included, is promising to mix things up.

It will be a political high-wire act this week when Harper, Dion, Layton, May and Bloc Québécois Leader Gilles Duceppe take the stage at Ottawa's National Arts Centre for two political debates.

Either of the debates — French on Wednesday and English on Thursday — could deliver the make-it or break-it moment of the campaign for any one of them.

The stakes are so high that the parties have scaled back their campaigns this week to allow time to prepare.

The stakes are so high that the parties have scaled back their campaigns this week to allow time to prepare. During mock debates, with stand-ins posing as the other leaders, they'll rehearse their responses and practise the zingers they hope will land a punch on their opponents.

Harper's goal will be just to survive the debate, a Conservative source said yesterday.

"It's a very hostile environment and they are both quite lengthy debates where I think virtually every exchange will be an attack from an opposition leader and a response from the prime minister," the strategist said. "To survive, come out of it standing, is really what one hopes to do when you're entering that kind of a hostile environment."

He said he doubts there will be any knockout blows, "but a lot of partisan sniping."

The stakes are perhaps highest for Dion, who aides are hoping can land some punches on Harper, especially on the economy, in a bid to turn around a flagging campaign.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

They said it

Quotes from the federal campaign trail yesterday:

"I would prefer that right now, but the RCMP suggests to me that while they would be happy to ride bicycles with me — and they do look good in spandex, I'm told — that in an election I'm running for prime minister (and) that a certain set of practices have to be in place."
— NDP Leader Jack Layton when asked why he and his wife, Toronto NDP candidate Olivia Chow, have ditched their bikes for RCMP-chauffeured limos.

"The NDP can promise you the moon, but they're buying your vote with Monopoly money."
— Liberal Leader Stéphane Dion when asked about Layton's campaign promises.

"That's the sort of sense of entitlement that has characterized that party for a long time — that there's only one choice and you've got no choice."
— Layton, reacting to Dion's remarks that Liberals are the only progressive politicians who could form a government.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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New York City taxi driver returns 18th-century viola to its owner
A New York City taxi driver has hit all the right notes by returning an 18th-century viola worth $40,000 US to a passenger who left it in the back seat of his car. The driver, Deniz Getting, will receive an award for returning the instrument. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

World

Arnold vetoes lapdog bill

Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger is vetoing a bill to fine motorists $35 US for sharing the driver's seat with lapdogs or other animals. Schwarzenegger says he's signing only bills that are "the highest priority for California." And a lapdog ban isn't one of them. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Is Palin becoming a liability?

Only the most avid followers of American presidential politics will remember Thomas Eagleton.

The Missouri senator was George McGovern's vice-presidential candidate for 18 days in 1972. He resigned when it was revealed he'd had electroshock treatments to deal with his mental health issues.

Eagleton was replaced by Sargent Shriver, and the McGovern-Shriver ticket went on to be roundly defeated by Richard Nixon and Spiro Agnew.

> **"Quick study or not, she doesn't know enough about economics and foreign policy to make Americans comfortable with a President Palin."**
> Kathleen Parker

Some have already drawn parallels between Eagleton and Sarah Palin, John McCain's controversial choice as running mate. The Huffington Post's Richard Gizbert referred to her as "Thomas Eagleton: The Sequel" when it was revealed her teenaged daughter Bristol was pregnant.

While Palin has no known history of severe mental illness, even the Alaska governor's usual cheerleaders on the political right have been turning on her in recent days, including one conservative commentator who urged her to drop out of the race in the wake of a series of cringe-worthy media interviews.

"Quick study or not, she doesn't know enough about economics and foreign policy to make Americans comfortable with a President Palin should conditions warrant her promotion," wrote Kathleen Parker on the National Review Online

Amid this backdrop, the vice-presidential debate will be held in St. Louis this Thursday, and Republican strategists are said to be beside themselves in their attempts to prepare Palin for the faceoff against Senator Joe Biden. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Sensitive data stolen from base

BRITAIN Computer discs that went missing from a British military base contain sensitive data on Royal Air Force personnel who have served in Iraq and Afghanistan, Britain's Ministry of Defence said yesterday. The discs went missing Sept. 17 from a secured area in Innsworth, 180 kilometres west of London, a spokesman said on condition of anonymity.

The discs appear to have been stolen, the ministry said. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Taliban kill top Afghan policewoman

MURDER The Taliban had threatened her with death before, and yesterday they finally made good.

Lt.-Col. Malalai Kakar, Kandahar's first female police detective and the highest-ranking policewoman in southern Afghanistan, was shot and killed by gunmen as she was on her way to another day of trying to bring law and order to this war-torn city.

The attack occurred shortly before 9 a.m. as she was being driven to work by her 18-year-old son, who was also badly injured in the shooting. The Taliban claimed credit for her killing.

Kakar, 41, who once killed three previous would-be assassins in a shootout, was widely admired for her bravery.

In a deeply conservative city where women are usually confined to their homes and wear full-length burkas when they venture out, Kakar was considered a trailblazer and often interviewed by western journalists covering the conflict in her country. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Iraq **Questioning after roadside bomb attack**

MAYA ALLERUZZO/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

An Iraqi boy and his sister eye U.S. army soldiers from Lightning Troop, 3rd Squadron, 3rd Armored Cavalry Regiment as they ask the children's father about a roadside bomb attack on the outskirts of Mosul, 360 kilometres northwest of Baghdad, Iraq, yesterday.

Sudan says army killed 6 kidnappers

CHASE The Sudanese army says it killed six of eight alleged kidnappers in a high-speed chase across the northern Sudanese desert, but according to the two surviving men, the missing Europeans themselves are still being held in Chad. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Iran mourns Paul Newman

GRIEF Iranians mourned actor Paul Newman yesterday in a rare instance of adoration of cinema trumping ideological and political differences.

In an unusual move, even a major state newspaper, which is traditionally staunchly anti-American, ran a front-page story about Newman's death.

More liberal independent newspapers also ran front-page articles on Newman.

Newman, who died Friday at 83 of cancer, became popular among Iranians before the 1979 Iranian Revolution, when his movies played in Iranian theatres. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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WELCOME TO OUR WORLD

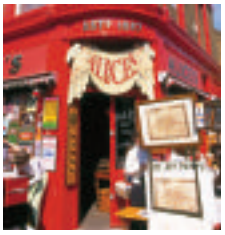
A LOCAL VIEW OF LONDON

London is home to some of the world's most famous icons, but there are also some amazing local neighborhoods to explore too. Londoners Neil and Isabelle share their thoughts on their corners of the city.

Neil

MY LONDON

I think my neighborhood is one of the most unique areas in London! Notting Hill has such a great atmosphere with its shops, markets, cafes and let's not forget the pubs. It's a world of its own in one corner of London! One of my favorite weekend pastimes is browsing through all the markets, and with so many across London, I'm spoilt for choice.



I'm particularly interested in the arts and crafts markets where you can find some really unusual items. They are great for gifts and always a hit with my friends and family.

There are loads of places to go shopping on a budget (so my wife tells me!). She really likes the high street stores, such as Topshop and Zara. Then she heads up to Oxford Street to get to the bigger shops.

Eating out in London is one of our indulgences. We love eating at pubs, which are really good value and have delicious modern versions of traditional British food. I particularly like a good old-fashioned pint of beer with my fish and chips. There are so many cuisines to choose from in London. My favorite is a Thai restaurant called Nahm, which is actually the only Michelin-starred Thai restaurant in Europe.

Whenever my mother-in-law comes to stay, we tend to go out for traditional afternoon tea. There are lots of places to experience high tea, but her favorite is The Orangery at Kensington Palace. And afterwards, I take advantage of the Kensington Gardens on the Palace grounds, which provides the perfect place to walk off all the scones and cream!

Isabelle

MY LONDON

Describe my London in one word? Theater! That's it! I just love going to the West End to see the big shows, just as much as I love going to some of London's smaller theaters to see original plays and performances.

There are loads of deals to help with the cost of theater tickets. I often head to the TKTS booth in Leicester Square for half price tickets. My advice is to get there early for the best deals!

"One of my favorite weekend pastimes is browsing through all the markets, and with so many across London, I'm spoilt for choice"

"Escape the beaten track and head for some of London's smaller unique museums, which give a glimpse into another world"

Another great way to make an evening in the West End go further is to look out for pre-theater meal and ticket packages. If you already have your theater tickets, it's still worth looking out for the pre-theater menus in many of London's restaurants. They are great value and ensure you get to the theater on time!

My advice to London visitors is to escape the beaten track and head for some of London's smaller, unique museums, which give a glimpse into another world. I personally love the Dulwich Picture Gallery with its fabulous collection of old masters. It's worth strolling through Dulwich Village afterwards and rewarding yourself with a well-earned drink at the Crown and Greyhound pub.

Another tip is to change your dollars at Thomas Cook foreign exchange branches throughout London. Download the required voucher at visitlondon.com, and receive discounts for a range of attractions. Better yet, it's commission free!

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Medical helicopter crashes in Maryland park, killing four passengers
A medical helicopter carrying victims of a traffic accident crashed in a suburban Washington park yesterday after reporting bad weather. A veteran pilot, a flight paramedic, a county emergency medical technician and one of the accident victims have died. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

China has big plans for space

Three Chinese astronauts emerged from their capsule yesterday after a milestone mission to carry out the country's first spacewalk, showing off China's technological know-how and cementing its status as a space power and future competitor to the United States.

A senior space official said the mission took the country one step closer in its plan to build a space station and then to land a man on the moon.

"China will achieve the target of putting a manned spacecraft on the moon."
Wang Zhaoyao

Wang Zhaoyao, deputy director of manned space flight, said the program is looking to launch a new orbiting vehicle and set up a simple space lab by 2011. There are also hopes of sending unmanned and manned space vehicles to perform docking activities with the target vehicle.

By 2020, China wants to launch a manned mission to experiment with technologies that will enable astronauts to take care of spacecraft for longer periods of time, Wang said after the astronauts' capsule made its return.

"We believe that as long as we can make further progress on the road of science and technology, China will achieve the target of putting a manned spacecraft on the moon in the near future," Wang said.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

U.S. NAVY/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Somali pirates in small boats are seen alongside the hijacked Faina, which is laden with Russian tanks destined for Kenya. It was hijacked Thursday.

Somali pirates demand $20-million for release of ship

HIJACKING As a heavily armed U.S. destroyer patrolled nearby and planes flew overhead yesterday, a Somali pirate spokesman told The Associated Press his group was demanding a $20-million ransom to release a cargo ship loaded with Russian tanks.

The spokesman also warned the pirates would fight to the death if any country tried military action to regain the ship and a man who said he was the ship's captain reported that one crew member had died.

Pirates seized the Ukrainian-operated ship Faina off the coast of Somalia Thursday as it headed to Kenya carrying 33 Russian-built T-72 tanks and a substantial amount of ammunition and spare parts. The ordnance was ordered by the Kenyan government.

The guided missile destroyer USS Howard was stationed off the Somali coast yesterday, watching to make sure the pirates did not remove the tanks, ammunition and other heavy weapons from the ship.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Negotiations

- Ukraine, Somalia, Russia, the United States and Britain have been sharing information to try to secure the swift release of the ship and its crew. Kenyan government spokesman Alfred Mutua, however, insisted his country will not negotiate with pirates or terrorists.

U.S. envoy to go on Korean nuclear mission: Officials

TALKS A senior American diplomat plans to visit North Korea in the coming week in a bid to salvage a faltering international effort to get the communist country to give up nuclear weapons, U.S. officials said.

Christopher Hill, the chief negotiator in the talks, leaves for South Korea today and is expected to travel to the North shortly afterward amid concern the often-delayed disarmament negotiation is on the verge of collapse.

The U.S., China, South Korea, Japan and Russia are trying to persuade North Korea not to return its main nuclear complex to working order.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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U.S. government loans to automakers could flow in six months
By as early as next spring, U.S. automakers will be able to tap into a $25-billion, 25-year low-interest line of credit from the government to help them modernize their plants to build more fuel-efficient vehicles. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Business

Bailout to hit U.S. dollar

TD Bank estimates the value of the American dollar could drop by 10 per cent in the "near to medium term" because the huge debts that the U.S. government plans to pile up to bail out the financial sector will push down the value of the greenback.
THE CANADIAN PRESS

EDITOR: FERMIN DESOUZA, FERMIN.DESOUZA@METRONEWS.CA

Signals of success

Watch for cheaper, easier loans, experts say

The U.S. government's biggest economic bailout since the Great Depression is aimed not at relieving unemployment or reforming questionable business practices, but at resuscitating financial markets debilitated by lousy bets on the housing market.

If it is working, signs will emerge almost immediately in the interest rates on U.S. bonds. Loans would be more available and less expensive in a matter of days, if not weeks.

And as the government gobbles the banks' toxic assets, the industry would gain the confidence needed to make it easier and cheaper for families to borrow for homes, cars and college — and for businesses to secure ample debt to pay for plants, equipment and workers.

Still, rising unemployment, high energy prices and falling real estate values will not disappear overnight. Even if the plan is successful, many predict the economy will probably shrink in the final quarter of this year and in the first quarter of next year, meeting the classic definition of a recession.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

AP PHOTO FILE PHOTO/U.S. MINT

The U.S. Mint on Friday said it is temporarily halting sales of its American Buffalo 24-karat gold coins because it can't keep up with demand as investors seek safety in gold in turbulent economic times.

RIM shares dive on dim outlook

CAUTIOUS Shares in Research In Motion took a nasty tumble on Friday, their 28 per cent retreat marking the biggest one-day drop in the BlackBerry maker's history as executives delivered a cautious outlook for the quarter.

On Thursday, RIM said its second-quarter profit rose to $495.5 million US or 86 cents per share, compared with $287.7 million or 50 cents per share a year ago — a penny below the consensus analyst estimate from Thomson Financial. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Tory bitumen export vow may hit oilsands investment

RESTRICT Prime Minister Stephen Harper's election promise to restrict the export of bitumen outside of Canada could affect investment in the oilsands and infringe on Alberta's jurisdiction over the resource, says Alberta's deputy premier Ron Stevens.

Harper's pledge made Friday in Calgary states that a re-elected Harper government will prohibit the exportation of the heavy black oil outside of Canada for refining into gasoline and other products in order to take advantage of lower pollution or greenhouse gas emissions standards elsewhere.

Last January, Premier Ed Stelmach said that if the United States doesn't want oil from Alberta's oilsands, the province could ship it to countries such as India and China.

The federal Conservative bitumen plan says that Canada cannot afford to export job and spinoff opportunities created by upgrading bitumen.
THE CANADIAN PRESS

Business in brief

BANKING British media say troubled mortgage lender Bradford & Bingley is to be nationalized and sold off in parts. British Treasury officials and financial regulators have held talks all weekend over the future of the bank.

HOUSING House prices in England and Wales fell at their sharpest rate for at least eight years in August. Average house prices declined 4.6 per cent year-on-year in August, and 1.9 per cent from the previous month.

ACQUISITIONS The Royal Bank of Canada is sifting through the troubled U.S. market for potential acquisitions in both commercial banking and wealth management, but has ruled out making a large purchase. METRO NEWS SERVICES

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Selanne, Ducks sign two-year deal

Forward Teemu Selanne is returning to Anaheim. The Ducks re-signed the 10-time all-star to a two-year deal yesterday. He had 12 goals and 23 points in 26 games last season after signing with the club in February. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Sports

Roddick takes China Open

No smashed racket this time, but Andy Roddick did show fans his volatile temper in beating Dudi Sela 6-4, 6-7 (6), 6-3 yesterday to win the China Open. In the women's final, top-seeded Jelena Jankovic defeated fourth-seeded Russian Svetlana Kuznetsova 6-3, 6-2. It was the Serb's second title this season and the seventh of her career. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Leafs' coach not worried about losses

NHL Maple Leafs coach Ron Wilson doesn't share the panic in Leafs Nation regarding his club's late game collapse in Buffalo on Saturday night.

The Leafs, having played well for about 57 minutes, suffered a mental letdown and wound up blowing a two-goal lead in a 3-2 loss in overtime to the Sabres.

Even though it was an exhibition game, the loss was stressful, because it marked the second such collapse in two nights. And fans became all too familiar with that negative trend last year.

"It's an exhibition game, it doesn't bother me at all."
Ron Wilson

Wilson, though, stressed perspective at this point in the season.

"It's an exhibition game, it doesn't bother me at all to be honest with you," he said yesterday as the team participated in off-ice training.

"What bothers me is getting asked ... these questions when you're trying to get young guys into the lineup ... well, we're probably not going to win the Stanley Cup, there's a news flash for you."

Wilson has underlined the need to rid the Leafs of their "hangover effect" from last season where the club never remedied their penchant for blowing third-period leads, which led to 23 one-goal losses.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

A tale of two teams

Superb pitching, inconsistent offence leave Jays at 86-76

Blue Jays 10 Orioles 1

A couple of weeks after it had effectively ended, the Blue Jays' 2008 season came to a close in clammy Baltimore yesterday.

A lopsided 10-1 victory over the miserable Orioles takes Toronto's final record to 86-76, 11 games back of surprise division winners Tampa Bay.

The optimistic take on the year? The Jays finished 10 games over .500 and the offence can only get better. The pessimist's view? They finished fourth in a division that will only get tougher next year and the pitching can't possibly repeat.

The pressure now shifts from players to management. Can they re-sign A.J. Burnett or, if not, another A-list starter? Will they be able to secure a power bat in the free-agent market? Most importantly, will the current club, the one that GM J.P. Ricciardi described as the best he had ever assembled, be able to cross from hopeful to contender next year?

The season was punctuated by optimistic peaks and deflating valleys. Coming out of spring training, playoff hopes ran high in the clubhouse.

"Our team is built to win now," Vernon Wells said hours before the season started at Yankee Stadium six months ago.

"Long. Frustrating," Wells said yesterday of the season. "Just another year that we didn't excel like we thought we would."

GAIL BURTON/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Vernon Wells hits a solo home run in the second inning of Toronto's 10-1 victory over Baltimore yesterday in the Jays' final game of the season. Wells finished the day 4-for-4 with two homers.

The team's $126-million US man suffered his second disappointing year in a row, missing two long stretches with a broken wrist and a hamstring strain. Yesterday, far too late to matter, he showed what he's capable of — 4-for-4 with two home runs and five RBIs.

Starter Jesse Litsch, who could be the staff's No. 2 man by next spring, threw seven innings of three-hit ball. A month ago, it would have been headline stuff. This morning, it's a footnote.

In the clubhouse yesterday, a respectfully mournful silence mixed with giddy anticipation of four months at home. Nobody bothered with a pre-game workout — except Roy Halladay. He was razzed when he decided to go for a run a couple of hours before game time.

Around the room, perspectives on the season were divided by position.

"Promising," was how Burnett summed it up.

"Disappointing," first baseman Lyle Overbay sighed.

That tells the story right there — a great year for the pitchers, a forgettable one for the rest.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Playoff race heads to extra innings

BASEBALL Already standing tall, CC Sabathia climbed on top of the Brewers dugout and sprayed fans with bubbly.

For the first time since 1982, when it was a member of the American League, and well before wild cards even existed, Milwaukee is going to the playoffs.

"It's our time," Sabathia said after beating the Cubs 3-1 yesterday.

No such luck for the New York Mets. They lost on the field — and the out-of-town scoreboard — and again were eliminated by Florida on the final day. Making it worse, a farewell-to-Shea Stadium followed.

No telling yet about the Minnesota Twins and Chicago White Sox. They still haven't sorted out their AL Central scramble.

This afternoon, Detroit visits Chicago in a makeup from a September rainout. If the White Sox win, they would host the Twins in a one-game tiebreaker tomorrow for the AL Central title.

Then on Wednesday, the playoffs begin with three games: Manny Ramirez, Joe Torre and the Los Angeles Dodgers take on the Chicago Cubs, the wild-card Brewers travel to Philadelphia and the World Series champion Boston Red Sox play the 100-win Los Angeles Angels.

On Thursday, the Tampa Bay Rays make their post-season debut when they host the White Sox or Twins. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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NBA
Houston Rockets forward Shane Battier will be sidelined up to four weeks and miss most of pre-season because of an inflammation in his left foot. Battier averaged 9.3 points and 5.1 rebounds in 80 games last season. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Favre sets Jets record

Brett Favre threw a career-high and Jets-record six touchdown passes, three to Laveranues Coles, and New York took advantage of mistakes by Arizona in a big second quarter of a 56-35 victory yesterday.

BILL KOSTROUN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Jets tight end Bubba Franks stretches out attempting to get the ball over the pylon for a touchdown as he is tackled by Arizona linebacker Clark Haggans during the New York's 56-35 victory yesterday. Brett Favre threw a career-high six touchdowns in the contest.

Cardinals wide receiver Anquan Boldin was carted off the field after a scary helmet-to-helmet collision with Eric Smith in the end zone with 27 seconds remaining. Boldin was moving all his extremities on the field and was talking to his teammates coming off the field and going into the locker room. He was being taken to a hospital for precautionary reasons.

New York's defence forced three fumbles and two interceptions in the first half and the Jets (2-2) set a franchise record by scoring 34 points in the second quarter.

Chiefs 33 Broncos 19

At Kansas City, Mo., Larry Johnson ran for 198 yards and two touchdowns and the Chiefs took advantage of four Denver turnovers.

Titans 30 Vikings 17

At Nashville, Tenn., rookie Chris Johnson scored two touchdowns and the defence forced four turnovers that the Titans turned into 21 points.

Bucs 30 Packers 21

At Tampa, Fla., Derrick Brooks had one of three interceptions of Green Bay quarterback Aaron Rodgers and also forced a fumble that Jermaine Phillips returned 38 yards for a touchdown.

Saints 31 49ers 17

At New Orleans, Deuce McAllister carried 20 times for 73 yards and had a 10-yard reception to convert a third down. McAllister gave the Saints (2-2) the credible power running threat they needed to open up deep throws for Drew Brees.

Elsewhere in NFL action, it was: Panthers 24 Falcons 9; Jaguars 30 Texans 27 (OT); Browns 20 Bengals 12; Washington 26 Dallas 24; Buffalo 31 St. Louis 14; and San Diego 28 Oakland 18.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Argos' playoffs hopes dimming

CFL Throughout the mid-season remaking of the Toronto Argonauts and the subsequent thumpings that can come with a total team overhaul, one thought has been keeping the players' hopes alive.

That's the fact the playoffs are still in sight.

"We're still one game behind (Winnipeg) and hopefully we just don't keep losing and keep getting better," veteran defensive end Jonathan Brown said after Saturday's 44-16 whacking at the hands of the Calgary Stampeders.

But that faint hope is looking even fainter today, partly because there are only five games left in the season, partly because the Argos have lost their most potent offensive threat in Dominique Dorsey and partly because the team appears to be making little progress.

Winnipeg (5-8) is indeed only two points ahead of the 4-9 Argos in the sluggish race for what will surely be the last playoff spot in the CFL East. But the Bombers have won three in a row and, had it not been for a stunning collapse against Saskatchewan on Labour Day would be on a four-game roll.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Sports in brief

NFL Cowboys owner Jerry Jones was fined $25,000 US by the NFL for publicly criticizing referee Ed Hochuli. It is the first time that Jones, who has owned the team 20 seasons, has been fined by the NFL.

NHL Jonathan Toews scored two power-play goals, and newcomer Brian Campbell had four assists in the Chicago Blackhawks' 4-3 pre-season victory over the Dallas Stars last night.

BASEBALL Even though the Mets missed the playoffs, it appears Jerry Manuel will return as manager. After a 4-2 loss to Florida yesterday knocked New York out of post-season contention, a person familiar with Mets management discussions said there's a very good chance Manuel will be brought back next season. The person spoke on condition of anonymity because a final decision had not been made.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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The Man Who Made the Whole Town Lose Weight

In the small town of Alesund in Norway, many of its residents began eating a common plant that made over 1,500 of them lose weight! It all began in 2006 when a customer of Johnny Pettersen, a local health food store owner, asked him for advice on how to eliminate sugar cravings.

"I gave my customer mulberry leaf tablets because mulberry is known to lower your blood sugar after meals. When blood sugar is stable, sugar cravings disappear. And it worked very well. I started recommending mulberry to many customers and soon noticed that they were losing weight. This made me curious, so I studied the effect of mulberries on blood sugar, insulin and fat burning. Surely enough, because of the effect on blood sugar, mulberry leaves also lead to lower insulin secretion, which makes you able to burn stored fat better and also reduces fat storage from excess calories."

The 10-day diet

When Pettersen increased the dosage, recommending two mulberry tablets before each meal, he found that his customers not only controlled their sugar cravings, but also lost significant amounts of weight.

"I recommended that customers follow the programme for a minimum of 10 days in order to eliminate their need for sugar stimulation. Sugar works as a drug on the brain and people need to eliminate the need for a 'sugar high' if they want to stay slim. Taking mulberry leaves, my customers changed to a healthier diet without even noticing it — they simply didn't crave sugar."

1500 people lost weight

After the success of the first customers, word travelled fast. In the last 12 months Pettersen has worked with over 1,500 customers in Alesund and the surrounding area. He feels that his simple and natural mulberry formula has been a tremendous success.

He concludes, "Once my customers try mulberry leaves, they come back, often with friends and family, and buy several packages. It is rewarding because I see them coming back happy, healthy and slimmer."

MULBERRY - A BREAKTHROUGH!

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Rangers release Nedved

The New York Rangers released center Petr Nedved on Friday. The 15-year veteran has 310 goals and 407 assists in 982 games. METRO NEWS SERVICES

JOHN AMIS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Camilo Villegas lines up a putt on the third green during the final round of the Tour Championship yesterday at East Lake Golf Club in Atlanta. Villegas beat Sergio Garcia on the first playoff hole.

Villegas takes Championship

A two-putt par to win the Tour Championship in a playoff was worth an extra $1.5 million US to Camilo Villegas.

A seven-iron to a scary pin on the 71st hole, under more pressure than he has ever faced?

That was invaluable.

Villegas overcame a five-shot deficit with six birdies on his final 11 holes of regulation — the last one after going at a dangerous flag on the 17th — and won the Tour Championship on the first extra hole against Sergio Garcia for his second straight victory.

"Winning is awesome," Villegas said after closing with a 4-under 66.

The 26-year-old Colombian, who had gone 85 starts on the PGA Tour without winning, picked up his second in a row with a finish that brought the gallery to life on a sunny afternoon at East Lake.

Bright's Grove, Ont., native Mike Weir finished tied for sixth at even-par 280. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SCOREBOARD

MLB

AMERICAN LEAGUE

EAST DIVISION

	W	L	PCT	GB
y-Tampa Bay	97	65	.599	—
w-Boston	94	67	.584	2½
New York	89	72	.553	7½
TORONTO	**86**	**76**	**.531**	**11**
Baltimore	68	93	.422	28½

CENTRAL DIVISION

	W	L	PCT	GB
Minnesota	88	74	.543	—
Chicago	87	74	.540	½
Cleveland	81	81	.500	7
Kansas City	75	87	.463	13
Detroit	74	87	.460	13½

WEST DIVISION

	W	L	PCT	GB
x-L.A. Angels	100	62	.617	—
Texas	79	83	.488	21
Oakland	75	86	.466	24½
Seattle	61	101	.377	39

NATIONAL LEAGUE

EAST DIVISION

	W	L	PCT	GB
Philadelphia	92	70	.568	—
New York	89	73	.549	3
Florida	84	77	.522	7½
Atlanta	72	90	.444	20
Washington	59	102	.366	32½

CENTRAL DIVISION

	W	L	PCT	GB
x-Chicago Cubs	97	64	.602	—
w-Milwaukee	90	72	.556	7
Houston	86	75	.534	11
St. Louis	86	76	.531	11
Cincinnati	74	88	.457	23
Pittsburgh	67	95	.414	30

WEST DIVISION

	W	L	PCT	GB
x-L.A. Dodgers	84	78	.519	—
Arizona	82	80	.506	2
Colorado	74	88	.457	10
San Francisco	72	90	.444	12
San Diego	63	99	.389	21

(w — teams currently holding wild-card spots; x — clinched division title; y — clinched playoff spot)

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS

AMERICAN LEAGUE

TORONTO 10 Baltimore 1
Chicago White Sox 5 Cleveland 1
L.A. Angels 7 Texas 0
Minnesota 6 Kansas City 0
N.Y. Yankees 6 Boston 2 (1st gm)
Seattle 4 Oakland 3
Tampa Bay 8 Detroit 7 (11 ings)
N.Y. Yankees at Boston (2nd gm)

NATIONAL LEAGUE

Arizona 6 Colorado 4
Atlanta 11 Houston 5
Chicago Cubs 7 Milwaukee 3
L.A. Dodgers 2 San Francisco 1
N.Y. Mets 2 Florida 0
Philadelphia 4 Washington 3
San Diego 3 Pittsburgh 2
St. Louis 8 Cincinnati 5

TODAY'S GAMES

AMERICAN LEAGUE

Detroit at Chicago Sox 2:05

CFL

EAST DIVISION

	W	L	T	PTS
Montreal	9	4	0	18
Winnipeg	5	8	0	10
TORONTO	**4**	**9**	**0**	**8**
Hamilton	2	11	0	4

WEST DIVISION

	W	L	T	PTS
Calgary	9	4	0	18
B.C.	8	5	0	16
Saskatchewan	8	5	0	16
Edmonton	7	6	0	14

WEEK 14

YESTERDAY'S GAME

Montreal 37 Saskatchewan 12

NFL

WEEK 4

SUNDAY'S GAMES

Buffalo 31 St. Louis 14
Carolina 24 Atlanta 9
Cleveland 20 Cincinnati 12
Jacksonville 30 Houston 27 (OT)
Kansas City 33 Denver 19
New Orleans 31 San Francisco 17
N.Y. Jets 56 Arizona 35
San Diego 28 Oakland 18
Tampa Bay 30 Green Bay 21
Tennessee 30 Minnesota 17
Washington 26 Dallas 24
Philadelphia at Chicago

TONIGHT'S GAME

Baltimore at Pittsburgh, 8:30

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SATURDAY

TORONTO at New York, 7:30

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Thrashers get Schneider
The Atlanta Thrashers acquired defenceman Mathieu Schneider from the Anaheim Ducks on Friday in lieu of three players. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Alonso owns night at Singapore race

In Formula One's first night race, Renault's Fernando Alonso captured the Singapore Grand Prix after starting 15th on the grid yesterday while McLaren's Lewis Hamilton extended his championship lead.

Alonso won for the 20th time in his career, his first victory since last year's Italian Grand Prix. Williams' Nico Rosberg was second, his best Grand Prix finish, and Hamilton was third.

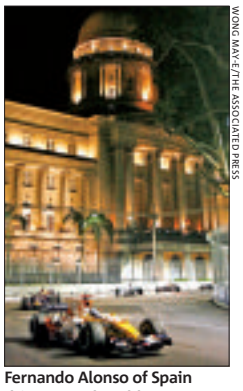
Alonso was way back on the grid after a fuel pump failed during qualifying. Yesterday, the Spaniard benefited from an early safety car period that turned the race around.

"After qualifying, our hopes were gone already," Alonso said. "It was nearly over, but it shows that Formula One is unpredictable on Sunday."

Hamilton extended his championship lead to seven points because of a turn of events that cost title rival Felipe Massa of Ferrari any points. The Brazilian led early from the pole, but his race was ruined when he pitted after the end of a safety car period at the start of the 20th lap.

Massa pulled away from his stop prematurely, taking the fuel rig and hose with him up the pit lane. He knocked over one of his mechanics, who needed medical treatment, and almost collided with another car.

Toyota's Timo Glock was fourth and Toro Rosso's Sebastian Vettel took fifth. In sixth was BMW's Nick Heidfeld, ahead of Red Bull's David Coulthard and Williams' Kazuki Nakajima. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS


WONG MAYE-E/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Fernando Alonso of Spain drives past the Old Court House at the Singapore Grand Prix yesterday.

Standings

- With 15 of 18 races completed, Lewis Hamilton has 84 points in the driver standings, followed by Felipe Massa (77) and Robert Kubica of BMW Sauber (64).

Als down slumping Riders 37-12

All the talk has been of the Montreal Alouettes offence this season, but now the defence can stand as tall as any quarterback or receiver.

The Alouettes defence did not give up a touchdown for a second consecutive game as Montreal downed the injury-riddled Saskatchewan Roughriders 37-12 in a hard-hitting CFL matchup yesterday afternoon at Percival Molson Stadium.

With the win, Montreal (9-4) officially clinched a playoff berth, ended a run of four straight losses to the Roughriders (8-5) and handed Saskatchewan its first loss to an East Division club in six games this season.

"It's a feeling of accomplishment, but it's something we feel we can do," said middle linebacker Reggie Hunt, a former Roughrider who has become a valuable piece of the Montreal defence this season. "We have a very athletic group here."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Sens re-sign Richardson

The Ottawa Senators signed defenceman Luke Richardson to a one-year, two-way contract on Saturday. The Ottawa native spent last season playing in his hometown and tallied two goals and seven assists with a plus-one rating in 76 games. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Tottenham continues free-fall

Portsmouth strikers Jermain Defoe and Peter Crouch inflicted a 2-0 loss on Tottenham yesterday to deepen the turmoil at their former side, while newly enriched Manchester City was upset 2-1 at Wigan with both beaten sides unhappy with penalty decisions.

The victory was sealed in the 66th by Crouch, who was let go by Spurs in 2000 without making a competitive appearance.

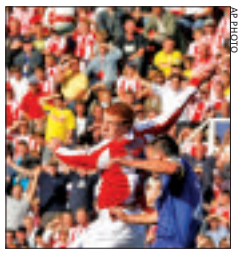
But Tottenham, which is off to its worst league start in 53 years, departed with a sense of injustice after referee Mike Dean refused to award a penalty when Lassana Diarra blocked Aaron Lennon's cross with his hand in the 54th — despite Jermaine Jenas being penalized for the same offence in the first half.

City felt similarly aggrieved at Wigan, with manager Mark Hughes branding referee Steve Bennett's decisions "erratic" and "mystifying."

City, which trounced Portsmouth 6-0 last weekend, was fuming at a contentious penalty decision that let Amr Zaki score the winner for Wigan.

Chelsea, which beat Stoke 2-0 on Saturday, leads the league on goal difference from Liverpool, which won by the same margin at Everton.

Hull provided the weekend's biggest upset by toppling Arsenal off the summit with a 2-1 win at the Emirates Stadium. Defending champion Manchester United beat Bolton 2-0 as it recovers from a stuttering start. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



AP PHOTO

Chelsea's John Terry, right, vies with Stoke's Dave Kitson during Chelsea's 2-0 win Saturday.

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Going Green

Rating products

Energy Star is an international symbol for energy-efficient goods. Rather than rating products along a scale, the Energy Star initiative sets a single standard and awards the Energy Star symbol to products that meet specific technical criteria, according to Greeniology: How To Live Well, Be Green And Make A Difference by Tanya Ha. METRO NEWS SERVICES

EDITOR: MIKE DEREZYCKY, MIKE.DEREZYCKY@METRONEWS.CA

Elect leaders who care about planet

Next government will lead Canada into the future on global warming initiatives

ScienceMatters

David Suzuki & Dr. Faisal Moola

Leaders of nations worldwide know we are near more than one environmental tipping point. So they've met to hammer out agreements in crucial areas such as biodiversity loss and global warming.

Canada itself has acknowledged, through national planning and legislation, the importance of issues such as species conservation and sustainable development. Many of these agreements and strategies must be addressed during the mandate of the government we elect on Oct. 14.

In December 2009, Canada will meet with other nations in Copenhagen to adopt an international treaty to succeed the Kyoto Protocol on global warming. In 2010, the country will also have to report on the progress it has made regarding the UN Convention on Biological Diversity's targets for reducing biodiversity loss. Over the next few years, Canada's government must also formally review its Species at Risk Act, implement a Sustainable Development Act, and tackle a number of other crucial environmental issues.

We need a government that will lead when it comes to caring for the finite world that gives us life and sustains us. We've already squandered 20 years since global warming was first recognized as an issue requiring immediate attention.

Election 2008

Even though the environment has at least been on the agenda during this election, pollsters tell us Canadians see the economy and health care as more important. But it's not a matter of one or the other. The health of Canadians depends on a healthy environment, as does a healthy economy. Everything is connected!

We're a bit behind, but we can start to catch up by recognizing that environmental initiatives can give the economy a huge boost. We can keep sucking every last bit of coal and oil out of the ground until it's all gone, until it's all been burned and its carbon released into the air, or we can create jobs and economic opportunities by developing renewable sources of energy.

Yes, we can all make a difference through our own individual actions by changing some of our habits, but we also have an opportunity to elect a government that will contribute to the kinds of large-scale changes needed for a sustainable world.

As Canadians, we must hold the politicians to account and ensure that, no matter which party wins the election, we will have a government that shows foresight and leadership at home and abroad. That way we'll have a country that is thriving on opportunity rather than drowning in crisis.

If we keep stalling, we won't have to worry about the economy, or health care, or anything else.

Take David Suzuki's Nature Challenge and learn more at www.davidsuzuki.org.

Dr. David T. Suzuki is a Vancouver-based award-winning scientist, environmentalist and broadcaster.

Scandinavian countries prove that a carbon tax can work

Scandinavia is cold enough to grow a Mats Sundin. Yet nowadays nearly everyone in the hockey hero's native Sweden keeps warm in winter without burning so much as a drop of oil.

Such are the spoils of the Nordic energy paradox, where a generation of pragmatic energy policy is putting paid to the notion that life cannot prosper on a lower-carbon diet.

For those who would have their cake and eat it, too, look to Sweden, where the raw data is to be envied: Between 1990 and 2006, the country enjoyed economic growth of 44 per cent in fixed prices, even as it cut carbon emissions by 9 per cent.

Denmark's numbers show a similar decoupling of GDP from the use of fossil fuels, with 43 per cent growth contrasting with a 14 per cent carbon reduction in the same time frame.

The shift was driven by a complex array of policies. But at its root, experts say, was the world's first carbon tax on fossil fuels — an early version of the so-called green shift now under discussion in Canada.

"We are living proof the world should not fear a tax on carbon. Sweden has the highest carbon taxation in the world but we are not living in the Stone Age."
– Per Rosenqvist, a Swedish climate expert

"We are living proof the world should not fear a tax on carbon. Sweden has the highest carbon taxation in the world but we are not living in the Stone Age," said Per Rosenqvist, a climate expert with the Swedish Environment Ministry

"The standard of life here has improved even as emissions came down. It hasn't been easy. It takes a range of policies, not just a tax. The solutions are different in every country. And they need to be regularly readjusted, as we learn from our mistakes. But it works."

It is almost required, when writing about Scandinavian energy policy, to wax breathless about enlightened nations who put the planet uppermost on their national agendas.

Yet the reality is something somewhat less angelic. The Danish and Swedish models are driven as much by hard-nosed pragmatism as anything else. Enlightened? Absolutely. Daring? That, too. But the imperative, as with any nation, was self-interest, first and foremost.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

In brief

COOKING Preheating your oven is often unnecessary for any food requiring more than a full hour of cooking time, says the Chicago Solar Partnership. Don't open the oven door when cooking; it will let heat escape and cause your oven to work harder. And thaw meat before you cook it. Roasting time will be shortened, energy will be saved and the meat will be more uniformly cooked.

DISHES New Energy Star dishwasher models use one-third of the electricity required by the average mid-'80s vintage, says Natural Resources Canada, for savings of about $80 a year. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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Respect the environment, Pope says
Pope Benedict has urged tourists to respect the environment and local cultures, touching again on a theme that has earned him a reputation as the "Green Pope." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Jobs

UN predicts more 'green' employment

STUDY A new United Nations report says efforts to reduce climate change could lead to millions more jobs worldwide.

A study cited in the UN Environmental Program report last week says the global market for environmental services and products is projected to double to $2.74 trillion US from $1.37 trillion by 2020.

Juan Somavia, director general of the International Labour Organization, told reporters at the UN: "Moving towards a more sustainable development path will mean major changes in the production and consumption patterns of all countries."

He says the move can also work for "the poorest of the poor." Half of the 2.3 million jobs in renewables today are in the developing world, he says. The report said green jobs include work in agriculture, industry, services and administration that contributes to preserving or restoring the quality of the environment.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

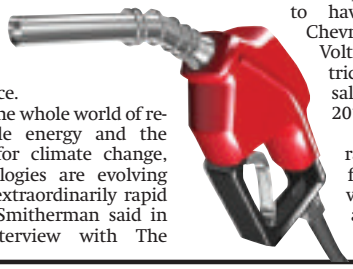
Ontario exploring wider range of fuel alternatives

Ontario no longer plans to boost the ethanol content in gasoline at the province's pumps, and is instead seeking a broader range of fuel alternatives as it works to aggressively reduce its carbon footprint.

While the province is not moving away from ethanol as an alternative fuel source, the government said Friday it won't increase the required ethanol content in gasoline to 10 per cent by 2010 from the current 5 per cent, as previously promised.

George Smitherman, minister of energy and infrastructure, said Friday the province will instead focus on an agreement signed with California to reduce the carbon footprint related to all vehicles by 10 per cent by 2020, known as the Low Carbon Fuel Standard.

That deal, signed by Premier Dalton McGuinty and California Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger last June, aims to reduce the carbon content of all transportation fuels sold in the province.



"In the whole world of renewable energy and the drive for climate change, technologies are evolving at an extraordinarily rapid rate," Smitherman said in an interview with The Canadian Press.

"When we first spoke about ethanol in 2003, the electric car seemed like a far-off dream, kind of like (the) Jetsons.

"Now, just a few years later, we're close to having automakers having mass-marketing of things like electric cars," he said, noting General Motors Corp. plans to have the Chevrolet Volt electric car for sale in 2010.

Natural gas-fuelled vehicles and cellulosic ethanol — a biofuel produced from wood, grasses or the non-edible parts of plants — are also being looked at to try to find green fuels that don't put stress on, or compete with, the province's food supply, he said.

"The premier did acknowledge that Ontario was considering new ways to achieve the low carbon fuel standards commitment that we made, in part a reflection on some of the concerns that have been raised about ethanol and certainly in reflection to the advancement in other technologies, which are evolving at very quick rates," Smitherman said.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Scientists investigating methane 'time bomb'

New research suggests there may be a methane "time bomb" on the ocean floor threatening to catastrophically warm the climate, and Canadian scientists wonder what effects this may have on people's efforts to combat global warming.

Preliminary findings from an international study suggest that significant amounts of methane gas — a much more powerful greenhouse gas than carbon dioxide — are being released from the ocean floor off Russia's north coast.

Permafrost on the ocean floor is currently holding the methane back. But the researchers, working from a ship off the Russian coast, say the permafrost appears to be melting, causing methane gas to bubble to the surface.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Initiative

Montreal Alouettes quarterback Anthony Calvillo

Alouettes tackle climate change

CARBON The Montreal Alouettes have become the first Canadian professional sports team to "go carbon neutral," taking a leadership role and hoping to start a new trend in the pro sports industry.

The club is taking significant steps to help tackle the critical issue of climate change with the launch of its "EnvironmentALS" program, which outlines how the team will work to reduce its environmental impact.

By going carbon neutral, the club will annually offset 400 tonnes of CO_2 — the equivalent of taking close to 100 cars off the road for one year.

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University status draws more students to UFV

The University of the Fraser Valley is reporting increases in enrolment over last year, with a 6.3-per-cent jump. The big reason for the gain is the fact that the former university-college was awarded university status by the B.C. government in April. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Workology

Lindros school

Recently, the London Health Sciences Centre's University Hospital unveiled the signage of its Lindros Legacy Research building, named after former NHL star Eric Lindros. Last November, Lindros contributed $5 million to the facility. METRO NEWS SERVICES

EDITOR: DOUGLAS DUNLOP, DOUGLAS.DUNLOP@METRONEWS.CA

All the money in the world

Canadians would consider themselves rich with 33% less money than Americans

RAFAEL BRUSILOW
for Metro Canada

A recent survey shows that Canadians don't value the almighty dollar as much as Americans do.

A new poll shows the average Canadian feels richer with less than the average American.

The most recent ADP Payday Poll, conducted by payroll management company ADP, showed that while the average American thinks a yearly income of $440,000 would make him or her feel rich, the average Canadian would feel rich with $296,000.

Within Canada, residents of Manitoba and Saskatchewan had the lowest desired level of income to feel rich at $236,000, while British Columbians had the highest with $350,000. Most other Canadian provinces came in around the average, ranging from Alberta with $281,000 to Ontario with $297,000.

Laura Ramsay, director of marketing for ADP Canada, says the survey results show Canadians consider income to be a lesser factor in their own happiness than Americans.

"Canadians feel they need to earn 33 per cent less than Americans do to feel rich. It points to the fact that we might be looking for more comfort in our careers than income," Ramsay said.

East to west

- Atlantic Canada residents were most likely to tell the truth about their salary to colleagues (76 per cent) while Ontario residents were least likely to do so (66 per cent).

However, she added that differing economic factors between Canada and the United States such as cost of living, concerns about the economy and other financial pressures likely play a large part in the split as well.

The survey also found an overwhelming majority of Canadians, 80 per cent, would report being overpaid to their employer and less than a quarter of all Canadians would look at a co-worker's pay stub even if they could do so without the other person knowing. Apparently honesty in financial matters is something most Canadians like to pride themselves on.

"We found that Canadians seem to be an honest bunch overall," Ramsay said.

As well, a national average of 72 per cent of Canadians surveyed said they would tell the truth about what they earn if asked by a colleague, future employer or friend.

Ramsay says a changing employment climate could be a big factor behind most Canadians' willingness to reveal their salaries to others, as online job-postings frequently list compensation and public disclosure of salaries has become more common.

"Revealing what you earn may not be as taboo a choice as it was many years ago," Ramsay said.

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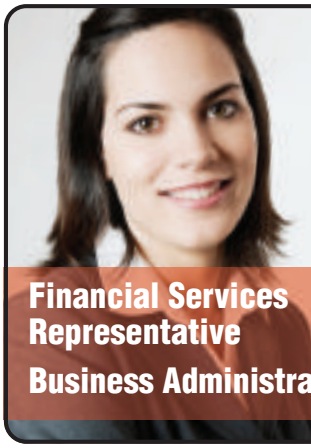
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Nova Scotia business school shuts down
The Success College of Applied Arts and Technology, based in Truro Nova Scotia, has closed its doors after 116 years in operation. An N.S. Department of Education spokesman said the school's president asked that the college's licence be rescinded because he didn't have space to hold classes. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Disabled kids' moms worse off than dads?

When it comes to the jobs of the thousands of Canadian parents caring for a child with a disability, it's mothers — not fathers — who pay the price, a new report says.

Three out of five parents of children with disabilities say their employment was affected by their children's condition, said the survey, last week by Statistics Canada.

However, when asked whose job was affected most, 64 per cent of parents reported it was the mother.

Only eight per cent of survey participants said the father's job was most affected.

About 25 per cent of mothers and fathers believed their jobs were equally affected.

For parents, changes included anything from cutting the number of work hours to changing shifts to turning down a promotion or even quitting a job.

"The adjustments to their employment was the largest way they were impacted," said Statistics Canada spokeswoman Krista Kowalchuk.

It was the first time the agency examined the impact that children with disabilities have on their families.

Kathy Payne-Mercer, a 47-year-old mother of two and occupational therapist from Port Perry, Ont., can relate. Her oldest daughter, 19-year-old Laura, has Down syndrome.

Growing up, Payne-Mercer and her husband Gord, a doctor, always acted as though Laura could do anything other kids could.

At school, Laura was included in regular classes. She was in Brownies and Girl Guides. She learned to ski.

But on top of all that, numerous appointments with specialists kept Payne-Mercer busy.

"I couldn't work full-time and meet all her needs," Payne-Mercer said.

"The meetings at the school, the arranging for things, the extra appointments. I truly don't know how people do it that work full-time."

> **"The meetings at the school, the arranging for things, the extra appointments. I truly don't know how people do it that work full-time."**
> Kathy Payne-Mercer

Payne-Mercer said her career is flexible and allows for part-time work — something she would have considered, regardless of Laura's disability.

"Fortunately, I'm in a career where I can do this," she said. "It has worked. I'm sure there's a lot of people out there where there's been a huge impact."

Child care was, at times, challenging.

Unlike many families, it became more difficult when Laura reached her teens.

"When Laura got to be 13, 14, you want to make sure the sitter was older than her," Payne-Mercer said.

"It wasn't as easy as just getting a kid from down the street."

A new study reveals that 64 per cent of women have their careers affected more than their husband if their child has a disability.

For parents like Payne-Mercer, child care difficulties aren't unique.

The survey found one out of every five parents had found daycares or programs who refused to accept children with disabilities.

During the study, conducted in 2006, there were approximately 200,000 Canadian families caring for a child with disabilities.

The report comes as Toronto prepares to host a national conference on the segregation of students with an intellectual disability. Advocates, academics, educators, politicians, parents and officials from human rights commissions across Canada will explore how better to include special-needs students.

Almost 30 per cent of Canadian students with an intellectual disability must attend special classes or segregated schools.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Workers attached to their office supplies

STEP AWAY FROM THE STAPLER. Recent studies show office workers are emotionally attached to the office supplies they use and become quite anxious when someone else in the office is in charge of replenishing for fear their favourite brands will be taken away or substituted for less expensive brands.

"Office workers are tired and stressed and sometimes form very close attachments to the brands and objects they use as a way of remaining productive," says Steve Murphy, Marketing Manager for ACCO Brands Canada. "It may not be all that conscious either. Our research shows workers don't even know they have that emotional connection until someone asks about it."

Office supply brands such as Swingline, Quartet, Wilson Jones, Kensington and Day-Timer make it their business to match the right tool with the right worker and target much of their marketing efforts towards office administrators who do the buying — the theory being that a well-stocked worker is a happy worker and happiness breeds productivity. Who knew binders, planners and three-hole punches could be so scientific?

Just as Milton in the 1999 cult classic Office Space protected his red Swingline stapler with his life, office workers everywhere have their own versions of the Swingline. What product is it for you? Is it your mouse? Your Day-Timer? Your white board?

On Oct. 21, Canadian office workers are being asked to "embrace their inner Milton" by participating in Organize Your Desk Day. A network of Canadian office supply retailers, including Grand & Toy, Staples, Basics Office Supply, Office Plus, Novexco / Buro PLUS, Corporate Express, and Lyreco, is behind the campaign to give workers a break and offer them office supplies they can use at work. There's more information at organizeyourdeskday.com. NEWS CANADA

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$21-million for health research

The Ontario government announced recently $21-million in funding for health-care research projects. The funding, coming from the Ontario Research Fund, will support 116 projects at 14 universities across the province. METRO NEWS SERVICES

The cat man of Parliament Hill

OddJobs

Diane Peters

It's a sunny afternoon at the western edge of Parliament Hill and René Chartrand is swinging a curly-haired toddler through the air. The boy and his father came here to look at the dozen cats who live in view of our nation's capitol buildings.

They're finding out the so-called Cat Man is possibly more entertaining than his feline charges.

Chartrand, although 86 years old, finds the energy to take a 10-minute bus ride most days to feed the cats, do maintenance on their homes and both chat and play with the hundreds of visitors who stop by every day. He arrives at two in the afternoon and stays until past five.

He rarely misses a day, although snow sometimes keeps him from leaving his downtown apartment, where he has seven cats of his own. "I cannot live without a cat," he says. "I've always loved them."

The descendants of the cat colony worked inside the Parliament Buildings doing natural pest control until chemicals took over their job in the 1950s. Put outside, they were cared for by various hill staff until, in the 1970s, a local woman named Irene Desormeaux gave them food and some boxes to live in. Chartrand began helping out.

In 1987, Desormeaux died and Chartrand took over. The former lumber mill worker and house painter, who is originally from nearby Hull, took his volunteer duties seriously. He built condos out of wood for the cats, got them vet care and lavished them with attention.

Chartrand set up a donation box, which helps offset — but doesn't always fully cover —the $6,000 it costs to care for these cats every year. Donated cat food and vet care (they get a check-up and shots every year) help, too.

In recent years, a group of eight local residents has begun helping Chartrand. They come early in the morning with food and when he arrives at two, he feeds them again (if he doesn't make it, everyone knows they've eaten for sure). They help with things like the shoveling.

They're also consciously letting the cat colony peter out. A few years ago, there were 28 cats, now just a dozen remain. When people drop kittens on the hill or a new stray comes into the group, they bring it to the local Humane Society for adoption (or take it in themselves — everyone involved in this project has a couple felines at home).

None of them sees themselves as Chartrand's successor in this job: He's the one who knows both official languages and who effortlessly acts as cat ambassador as well as cat lover. "Taking care of these cats is all I have to do. I'm in love with them."

Diane Peters once hawked magic pens at the Canadian National Exhibition. She's now a writer and part-time journalism instructor.

PHOTO: STAR/LITTLEJOHN

René Chartrand, the so-called cat man.

The Lowdown

Job title: Cat Man
Salary: Volunteer; chips in to help offset the $6,000 annual cost of keeping the cats.
Education/training: A love of cats; helps if you can build and fix things.
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CUPE issues UBC challenge to become a better employer
In light of the University of British Columbia placing second as the best local employer in the Georgia Strait's Best of Vancouver 2008, CUPE locals have issued UBC some challenges in becoming a better employer. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Oddest jobs from A to Z

• As an increasing television spotlight is shone on unique jobs — not to mention Metro's weekly column Odd Jobs, by Diane Peters — CareerBuilder.com has announced its most unusual job survey results.

More than 8,700 workers revealed the most unconventional jobs they've held during their careers. This year's top picks are:

• A - Autopsy assistant
• B - Bartender at the Liberace mansion
• C - Cat nanny
• D - Donkey trainer
• E - Elf at Santa's workshop
• F - FBI Fingerprint examiner
• G - Grave digger
• H - Hurricane hunter
• I - Ice sculpture carver
• J - Junk mail machine operator
• K- Kitty litter box decorator
• L - Laser tag referee
• M - Magician's assistant
• N - Nuclear electrician on a submarine
• O - Opera singer
• P - Parachute tester
• Q - Quality control/taster for chocolate factory
• R - Romance specialist
• S - Scratcher (scratched backs for patients)
• T - Turkey wrangler
• U - Undercover vice decoy
• V - Video game tester
• W - Wallpaper peeler
• X - X-ray technician for zoo animals
• Y - Yawn counter at a sleep clinic
• Z - Zamboni driver

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Ryerson releases new academic plan

Ryerson University has unveiled its new academic plan, which was approved by the university's senate in June. Shaping Our Future 2008-2013 focuses on high quality programs, student success, learning and teaching excellence and reputation. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Drowning in a sea of e-mail?

Remember when "You've got mail" alerts were thrilling?

The e-mails that now pour into office inboxes and spill onto BlackBerry devices have left some workers feeling so bogged down with online messages, they can find little time to do anything else.

"We're like frazzled lab rats, being poked and prodded and beeped and pinged," says Maggie Jackson, author of Distracted: The Erosion of Attention and the Coming Dark Age.

The average worker receives 200 e-mails a day, according to the business and technology research firm Basex in its report Information Overload: We Have Met the Enemy and He Is Us.

It's an unfortunate irony a system once lauded for its promises of efficiency has filled days at the office with wasted, fragmented time. Basex found that e-mail and other interruptions decrease U.S. productivity at a cost of more than $650-billion per year for billions of lost man hours.

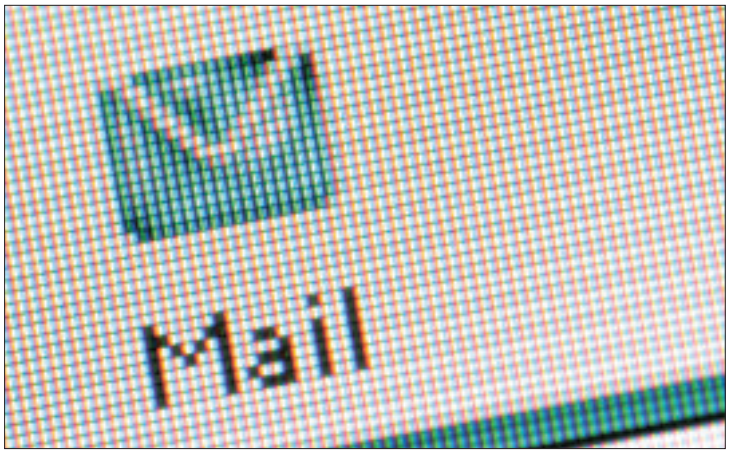

PHOTO CREDIT

The average worker receives 200 e-mails per day.

Constant access to information, communication and technology has become such a big issue, experts say, its implications go beyond a lack of productivity and focus at work.

E-mail and information overload also eats into the quality of work relationships as well as those at home.

"Attention is the bedrock to learning, memory, social connection and happiness," Jackson says.

Checking e-mail can also be an all-too-tempting alternative to actual work. And like any form of procrastination, sometimes taking care of e-mail just feels so good.

"E-mail is being used like a drug to get a hit of accomplishment when one feels he is spinning his wheels," says technology analyst Craig Roth in his blog, KnowledgeForward.

Productivity gurus have also created a cottage industry out of e-mail overload. Here's the best of their advice:

• Don't check e-mail in the morning. Experts say you should take care of an important task first thing before checking e-mail so that you don't use it as an excuse for postponing more pressing obligations.

• Check it in batches, rather than fluidly throughout the day. Some experts suggest checking it twice a day. Others, up to five times. But the important thing is efficiency. "You wouldn't do a new load of laundry every time you have a dirty pair of socks," says Timothy Ferriss, author of The 4-Hour Workweek.

Immediate results

• Office culture has developed to reward immediacy over focus, so that attending to what's new at any given moment takes precedence over long-term goals. The result? A series of interruptions, such as e-mail, that get in the way of the big-picture goals.

• Minimize exchanges. "Learn to propose, instead of asking questions," Ferriss says. Instead of asking what time a person can meet for lunch, just jump right in and propose a few times. You can use "if, then" language, for example, "If you can't meet at 11, how about 12?"

• Unsubscribe to lists or newsletters you don't read.

• Stop sending e-mail. Sending less e-mail means receiving less e-mail. "This does not mean that you should write elliptically or bypass standard grammar, capitalization and punctuation," says Merlin Mann on his productivity blog 43 Folders.

• Set precedents from above. If you're a boss, you might think again about sending an e-mail late at night on a Saturday or other non-work times unless it's truly urgent.

• Use other forms of communication. E-mail has earned a solid place in the office, but in some cases it's not the most appropriate form of communication.

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Risky ads on downswing

Companies may need to take more chances when developing new advertising and marketing campaigns, a Creative Group survey suggests. Sixty-five per cent of marketing executives and 45 per cent of advertising executives said their firms don't take enough creative risks with projects.

Advertising and marketing executives were asked, "How would you rate your firm/agency when it comes to creative risk taking with projects?"

Forty-four per cent said they take some, but not enough risks while 38 per cent said they play it too safe.

"Companies tend to become more risk-averse in an uncertain economy," said Megan Slabinski, executive director of The Creative Group. "But when budgets are lean, it can be an opportune time for firms to try new or unproven promotional strategies and distinguish themselves from competitors."

Slabinski noted that creative professionals' power of persuasion plays a vital role in whether their firms take creative chances. "Good ideas perish when there's no one to effectively champion them," she said. "Strong communication skills and business knowledge are increasingly important attributes for today's creative leaders."

The Creative Group offers the following suggestions for building support for creative projects:

• Take your ego out of the equation. Before going to bat for an idea, carefully consider whether it's a pet project that won't have a significant impact on the business or an initiative that could genuinely move your company forward.

• Get granular. Minor errors, such as a typo in a presentation or e-mail, can quickly erode credibility. Double-check all information for accuracy before you present it.

• Talk the talk. When pitching ideas, use the same terminology your audience does and avoid creative jargon people might not understand.

• Step in their shoes. Similarly, try to view things from your audience's perspective.

• Give evidence. If possible, provide specific examples of firms that have achieved success using similar strategies.

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Moss lipstick portrait sells
A self portrait drawn in lipstick by supermodel Kate Moss has been sold to an anonymous buyer for $62,000 US in London. **BBC NEWS ONLINE**

Entertainment

Lone Ranger
George Clooney is reportedly set to star as The Lone Ranger, joining Johnny Depp in the big-screen adaptation of the long-running 1950s TV show, according to British tabloid reports. IMDB.COM

EDITOR: TINA COSTANZA, TINA.COSTANZA@METRONEWS.CA

Dragons turn up the heat

RICK McGINNIS
rick.mcginnis@metronews.ca

Let's make it clear that Dragons' Den would probably have been a hit on almost any other network — the collision of rock-ribbed business priorities with the fervent dreams of budding entrepreneurs is a winning formula almost as self-evident as "encourage B-list celebrities to humiliate themselves by dancing" or "get trippy celebrities to judge a pumped-up talent show."

What the CBC has brought to the business reality competition show — a Japanese concept that was a hit in the U.K. before coming to Canada — is an almost leisurely tone that eschews quick cuts in favour of savouring the tension and mortification germane to the success of any reality show.

The third season of Dragons' Den premieres tonight with a new Dragon — original potential investor and La Senza lingerie co-founder Laurence Lewin has been replaced by investment banker W. Brett Wilson, who earns his keep in the first quarter of the first episode by locking horns with veteran Dragons Robert Herjavec and Kevin O'Leary and turning what would probably have been a straightforward deal into a fight over investing ethics.

"I might be adding a little levity," Wilson said during a break from filming earlier this year, "because I don't take things too serious, so we're having a bit of fun in that regard across all of the personalities. Robert is stepping out this year in a way — it's hard to get a word in edgewise once he gets going, once he starts educating the Dragons. Arlene (Dickinson, marketing mogul) is staking her turf in a way that didn't seem possible, and I've known her for a long time. (Boston Pizza founder Jim) Treliving is just throwing zingers that are knocking people right off their feet, and you've got Kevin, in his usual fashion, saying 'It's about the money.' Pretty myopic but he knows how to make a dollar, and I think the merge of all those talents has turned into a lot of fun, but whether it turns into drama is up to the CBC."

JEFFREY KIRK, CBC TELEVISION

The cast of CBC's Dragons' Den includes Robert Herjavec, from left, Arlene Dickinson, Jim Treliving, host Dianne Buckner, Kevin O'Leary and new Dragon W. Brett Wilson.

The buzz from the show's set that morning was that the quintet of Dragons were making an unprecedented number of deals with pitchers, but will that take space away from the money pits and harebrained disasters that contribute so much to the show's entertaining bottom line? Wilson insists that success has not spoiled Dragon's Den.

"Some of the stupidest wastes of my time have occurred in the last two days. Absolutely. So if you're worried if they're weeding out the crap, they haven't done a very good job at the margin. But what they have let filter through is very interesting.

"The essence of Dragons' Den is actually getting deals done and following on, over time, seeing how we're doing deals. Anyone can turn down a deal, not everyone can do a deal, and that's what's starting to happen here."

Wintersleep swear by profane act

IAN NATHANSON
for Metro Canada

The Canadian music industry has apparently taken notice of the talents of two bands drummer Loel Campbell and keyboardist/bassist Mike Bigelow play with.

This year saw the pair's mainstay indie outfit, Wintersleep, earn a Juno Award for new group. Meanwhile, the two also played on LP, the second album from Toronto experimental act Holy F—k, which made the short list for the Polaris Music Prize.

"When the nominations were announced, we were super-freaked, like 'What's going on here?' " Campbell said. "With the Juno win, we're just honoured to have a place in a piece of Canadian music history. But we're more excited about the Polaris nomination, because the peer group is essentially everyone we know who's making records."

Should Holy F—k capture the Polaris award — the winner will be announced tonight at the Phoenix — Campbell and Bigelow will have to celebrate from afar, since the two no longer perform with the group.

"We can't anymore, we're just too busy (with Wintersleep)," Campbell said. Although considered by Juno standards as best new group, Wintersleep have been active since 2002. Based in Halifax, Campbell, Bigelow, singer/guitarist Paul Murphy, guitarist/keyboardist Tim D'Eon and bassist Jud Haynes built up a following plugging 2003's Wintersleep and the untitled 2005 follow-up.

"The material on those two records was quite stretched out, experimental and full of extreme dynamics," Campbell said. "It's like one giant melting pot of influences."

After gaining a new keyboardist (Jon Samuels) and losing a bass player (Haynes), Wintersleep released Welcome To The Night Sky a year ago, which Campbell describes as more cohesive in terms of song structure, although maintaining its dark, atmospheric dynamic. And to be closer to music peers, the band relocated to Montreal. "We felt a bit isolated living out east," Campbell said. "It just makes more sense."

SCOTT MUNN PHOTO

Juno Award-winning indie rockers Wintersleep perform Wednesday night at the Phoenix Concert Theatre.

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Agent Mirren

Dame Helen Mirren's next film will see her play a Mossad agent who covers up the re-emergence of a Nazi war criminal. Filming is due to take place in the UK, Germany and Israel next year. METRO NEWS SERVICES

End of a legend

Paul Newman, the Oscar-winning superstar who personified cool as the anti-hero of such films as Hud, Cool Hand Luke and The Color of Money — followed by a second act as an activist, race-car driver and popcorn impresario — has died. He was 83.

Newman died Friday at his farmhouse near Westport following a long battle with cancer, publicist Jeff Sanderson said. He was surrounded by his family and close friends.

As an actor, Newman went on to become one of the world's most enduring and popular film stars, a legend held in awe by his peers. He was nominated for Academy Awards 10 times, winning one Oscar and two honourary ones and had major roles in more than 50 motion pictures, including Exodus, Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid, The Verdict, The Sting and Absence of Malice.

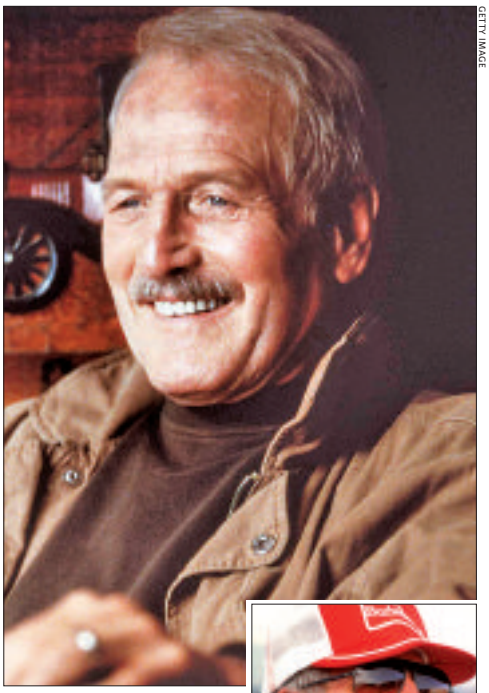
He sometimes teamed with his wife and fellow Oscar winner, Joanne Woodward, with whom he had one of Hollywood's rare long-term marriages. "I have steak at home, why go out for hamburger?" Newman told Playboy magazine when asked if he was tempted to stray.

Newman had a soft spot for underdogs in real life, giving tens of millions to charities through his food company and setting up camps for severely ill children. Passionately opposed to the Vietnam War, he was so famously liberal he ended up on president Richard Nixon's "enemies list," one of the actor's proudest achievements, he liked to say.

In 1988, Newman founded a camp in northeastern Connecticut for children with cancer and other life-threatening diseases. He went on to establish similar camps in several other states and in Europe.

Newman is survived by his wife, five children, two grandsons and his older brother Arthur.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



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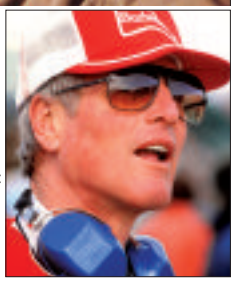

With his strong, classically handsome face and piercing blue eyes, Paul Newman was a heartthrob just as likely to play against his looks, becoming a favourite with critics for his convincing portrayals of rebels, tough guys and losers.

Stars speak out

- *"My life — and this country — is better for his being in it."*
  - Robert Redford

- *"Sometimes God makes perfect people and Paul Newman was one of them."*
  - Sally Field

- *"Paul Newman was the ultimate cool guy who men wanted to be like and women adored. He was an American icon, a brilliant actor, a Renaissance man and a generous but modest philanthropist."*
  - Arnold Schwarzenegger

- *"Paul was an American icon, philanthropist and champion for children."*
  - Hillary and Bill Clinton

- *"He'd slug me if I was to call him an icon that I was intimidated by. He wouldn't want to hear anything about it. But the fact is, come on, he's Paul Newman. But he's much more than anything you'd expect."*
  - Tom Hanks, in 2002

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No evidence, no charges
Shia LaBeouf won't face a drunken driving charge for his involvement in a July crash that left his hand mangled. Los Angeles County District Attorney spokeswoman Jane Robison says there was "insufficient evidence." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Comedy inside the court

BookPicks

Supreme Courtship

Author: Christopher Buckley
Publisher: Grand Central
Price: $27.99 (Hardcover)

From the author of political satire Thank You For Smoking comes a new comic look inside the highest legislative body in the United States — the Supreme Court. A justice vacancy leaves President Donald Vanderdamp the responsibility of finding a replacement. When senator Dexter Mitchell dismisses President Vanderdamp's nominees, the leader takes action to get a big name onto an even bigger bench. He calls on Judge Judy-esque Texan Judge Pepper Cartwright from TV's Courtroom Six to step up to the bar. Her celebrity battles tradition in a novel where Buckley, a former speechwriter for George H.W. Bush, continues his satirical representation of Capitol Hill.

Brian Coulton/for Metro Canada

Timebomb

Author: Gerald Seymour
Publisher: Bantam Press
Price: $24.95 (Paperback)

Sixteen years ago, a fired KGB man stole and buried a dangerous suitcase bomb. Now, he's ready to sell and has arranged to meet a Mafia gangster in Eastern Europe. But, MI6 undercover cop Carrick who is travelling with the buyer better work fast if he hopes to impede the operation. An MI6 psychologist is having doubts about the officer's frame of mind and what devastating consequences his questionable loyalty may have. With concise writing to set a thrilling tone, Seymour's Timebomb succeeds to create well-timed tension to set up explosive scenes.

Brian Coulton/for Metro Canada

Britain allows Busta's charity show

American rapper Busta Rhymes has performed at a charity concert after overcoming his problems with British immigration.

Rhymes — whose real name is Trevor George Smith Jr. — performed at London's Royal Albert Hall Friday night after winning a court order allowing him to stay in the country.

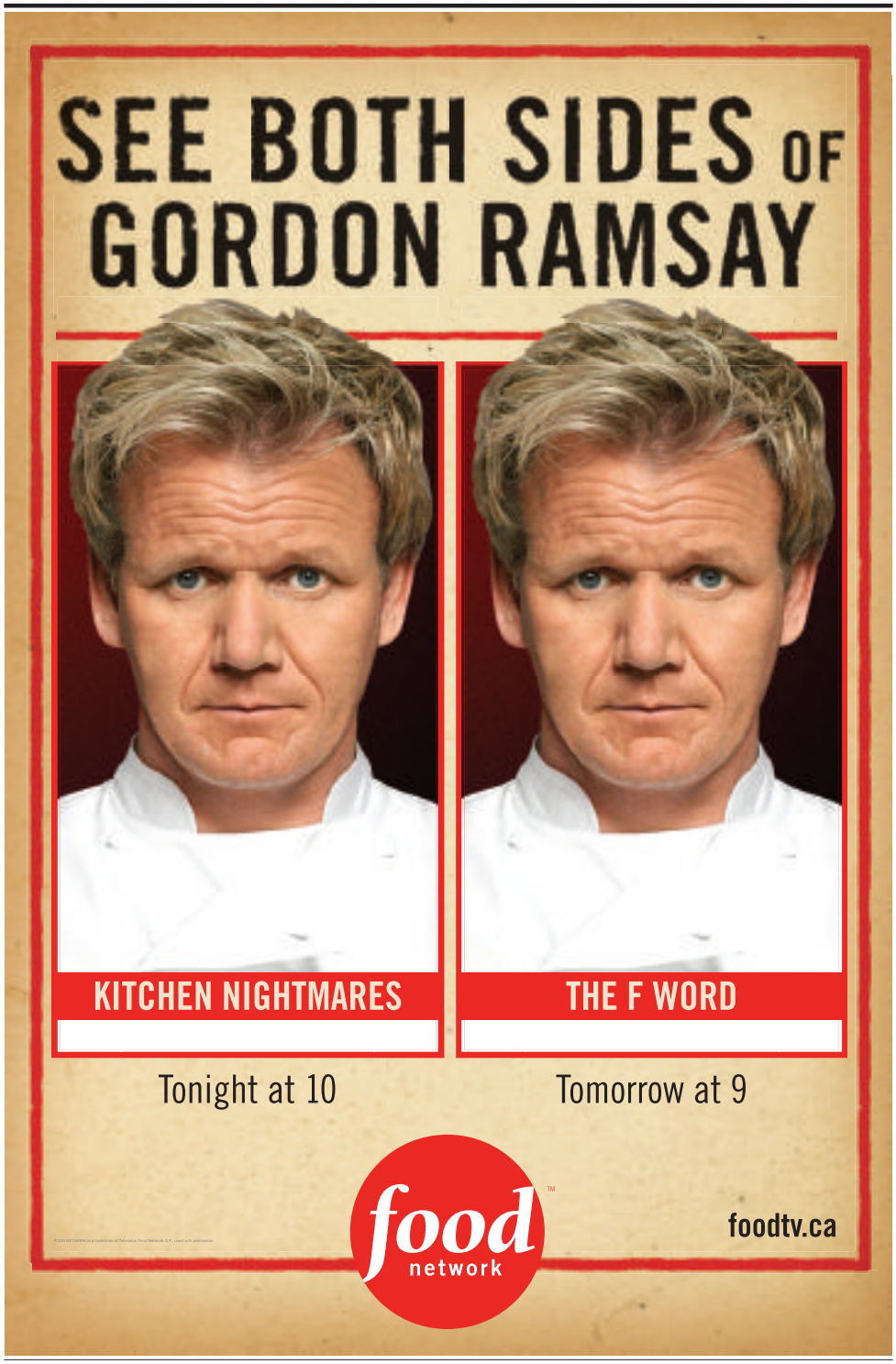
High Court judge Nicholas Stadlen gave the go-ahead, saying he did not want to disappoint 4,000 young people who won their tickets by performing community work.

Immigration officials stopped Rhymes Thursday at London City Airport, with his promoters saying they cited previous legal trouble in the United States.

In March a New York judge sentenced Rhymes to three years' probation for assaulting his former driver and a fan.

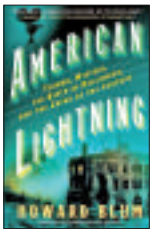
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Busta Rhymes



American Lightning

Author: Howard Blum
Publisher: Crown Publishers
Price: $27.95 (Hardcover)



Two-time Pulitzer Prize nominee and Variety contributing editor Howard Blum brings together crime, cinema and the courtroom in the creative nonfiction book American Lightning.

The novel observes the 1910 explosions in downtown Los Angeles that ignited the offices of the Los Angeles Times. Enter Holmesian detective William J. Burns. His investigation points the finger at union activists who he believes are part of a greater terror ring responsible for plenty more bombings. Supporting detectives, journalists and actors all get their word in while director D.W. Griffith capitalizes on the events in Birth of a Nation, a film highlighting the key turn-of-the-century crime.

Brian Coulton/for Metro Canada

DJ released from hospital after crash

Celebrity disc jockey DJ AM has been released from a Georgia hospital after suffering severe burns in a fiery plane crash a week ago, a spokeswoman for the musician said Friday.

Adam Goldstein

"While he is deeply saddened by the events, he is thankful for all of the love and support he has been receiving from fans and friends," spokeswoman Jenni Weinman said in a statement.

DJ AM, whose real name is Adam Goldstein and former Blink-182 drummer Travis Barker, were rushed to hospital after their Learjet crashed on takeoff from a Columbia airport. Two pilots and two other passengers were killed in the crash just before midnight Sept. 19. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

In brief

CHARGED Prosecutors say they have charged the father of Heroes star Hayden Panettiere with misdemeanor battery for an incident in which he allegedly hit his wife.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NOT CHARGED Los Angeles County prosecutors say they have declined to file felony charges against Kanye West for an incident in which a paparazzo's camera was broken.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Estate settled

Late actor Heath Ledger's estimated $20-million US estate will go to his two-year-old daughter Matilda Rose, it has emerged after months of closed-door court meetings. Ledger died of an accidental prescription pill overdose in January. TMZ.COM

Smith to reprise I Am Legend role

FILM Will Smith has been given a 40th birthday gift by Warner Bros. bosses — the chance to reprise his I Am Legend character Robert Neville in a prequel to the 2007 blockbuster, *imdb.com* reports.

Movie executives have greenlighted the film on the movie star's birthday Thursday, confirming Francis Lawrence will return as the director and D.B. Weiss will pen the script.

And it's not the only Will Smith action/sci-fi blockbuster set for a second outing — Smith's Hancock co-star Charlize Theron has hinted at a sequel.

"If everybody's on board, I would be an idiot (not to do it)... Riding the Will Smith train is a really nice train to ride," Theron said in a recent interview.

WARNER BROS. PICTURES

Will Smith in I Am Legend.

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Taking stock of your life goals

You may be pleasantly surprised at just how much you've achieved this year

HineSight

Anne Hines

"My friend Rob claims he's cut his personal water consumption in half by substituting soda in his Scotch."

My grandmother had a saying, "If you don't take stock, how do you know when you're running low?" Remembering those words always makes me think. Mostly, I think, "What the heck was the old woman talking about?"

Possibly, what grandma meant was that every so often we should take time to ask ourselves important life questions. Do a little self-assessment.

Not like, "Am I doing all I possibly can to benefit humankind?"

That's a lot of self-assessment. I'm thinking more along the lines of, "Am I headed down a wrong road?" and "Should I stop doing that if it stops being fun?"

Traditionally, the time to take stock of our lives is when we make New Years resolutions. I've made many resolutions over the years and I'm happy to say I've kept every one.

Mainly, I've kept them in the bottom drawer of my desk where I don't have to look at them.

But today I'm taking grandma's advice and I invite you to do the same.

Career

My crowning achievement this year was training my family not to interrupt when I'm working. I did this by saying, "Let me read you what I'm working on," every time they came near.

Finances

So far, a significant part of my savings portfolio is made up of whatever I find under the sofa cushions. But, I do have a retirement plan. I plan never to retire.

Family

This is a big year for our family as my older daughter gets surgery to become, well, my older daughter. Jade was born biologically male. As we work through this process together, I've come to realize that my family is exasperating, opinionated and often surprisingly terrific. In other words, we're just like everyone else.

Going green

My friend Rob claims he's cut his personal water consumption in half by substituting soda in his Scotch. For myself, I didn't get around to getting a backyard composter but I think the pile of laundry in the basement has started to decompose.

Personal satisfaction

I've got love and work enough and what else do we need? Except for nice shoes. And gossip magazines. Oh, and Twizzlers. I love those.

The tally

I'm giving myself an A for "effort." Or possibly for "anxious." But overall, I'd say I've achieved the ultimate goal of anyone trying to make it in this challenging world. I'm still standing.

Ann Hines hasn't quite gotten around to buying a backyard composter, but she thinks the pile of laundry in her basement has started to decompose.

Anne Hines is an author and humour writer. She has written three novels and one collection of nonfiction humour.

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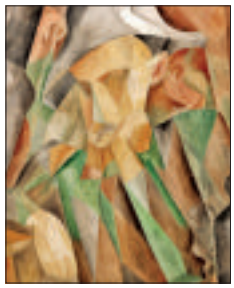
Picasso Harlequin painting heads for New York auction

ART Picasso's Harlequin is going on the auction block. The 1909 work was owned for about 60 years by surrealist painter Enrico Donati.

The cubist painting will be offered at Sotheby's on Nov. 3. It is expected to bring more than $30 million US.

Donati, who died in April at age 99, bought the painting in the early 1940s for $12,000. Painted in hues of green rose, jade and amber, the harlequin was a frequent motif in Picasso's work and often considered his alter ego.

The Italian-born Donati was part of a circle of surrealist painters that included Max Ernst and Salvador Dali.



SOTHEBY'S

Harlequin, a 1909 painting by Picasso, is up for auction.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Casting
Actress Sarah Michelle Gellar, right, has reportedly landed a role in the new TV series The Wonderful Maladys.
The show is about three adult siblings who learn how to cope after losing their parents at a young age. FEMALEFIRST.CO.UK

Radcliffe earns good reviews on Broadway

THEATRE By now, Daniel Radcliffe has his role in Equus down cold. But he still had the jitters before taking the stage for the play's Broadway opening.

"It was funny because tonight I didn't expect to be nervous because we've done all the previews, we've had all the critics here," Radcliffe said after Thursday's performance.

Radcliffe

"I thought, 'Oh, we'll do it tonight, it won't be so bad.' But I was terrified before we went out. I was like, 'Omigod, this is it.'"

Radcliffe earned rave reviews for his performance in the London production of the Tony-winning play.

Much fuss has been made over Radcliffe's nude scene in the play. The media attention made no sense to the celebrity crowd who saw the show Thursday night.

"If it's in the play, if it's in the story, if it's necessary, then it's right," said Kathleen Turner, who once doffed her clothes as Mrs. Robinson in the stage version of The Graduate. "The fact that (Radcliffe is) willing to learn and risk is all to his credit."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Box office

Estimated ticket sales for Friday through yesterday at U.S. and Canadian theatres, according to Media By Numbers LLC:

1. **Eagle Eye:** $29.2 million US
2. **Nights in Rodanthe:** $13.6 million
3. **Lakeview Terrace:** $7 million
4. **Fireproof:** $6.5 million
5. **Burn After Reading:** $6.2 million
6. **Igor:** $5.5 million
7. **Righteous Kill:** $3.803 million
8. **My Best Friend's Girl:** $3.8 million
9. **Miracle at St. Anna:** $3.5 million
10. **Tyler Perry's the Family That Preys:** $3.2 million

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

What's on stage this season

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE
Elicia MacKenzie (Maria), left, and Burke Moses (The Captain) perform during a rehearsal for The Sound of Music.

The Black Rider

Rock legend Tom Waits, hipster poet William S. Burroughs and theatrical genius Robert Wilson collaborated on this work, which has been galvanizing audiences around the world for years. This production has been touring for a decade, and now it finally comes to Toronto.
When: Oct. 15 to Nov. 16
Where: Tarragon Theatre
Tickets: $10-$32 at 416-531-1827.

Frost/Nixon

Peter Morgan's play about the TV interview between David Frost and Richard Nixon was a giant hit in London and NYC. With Len Cariou as Nixon and Ted Dysktra directing, it should do the same here.
When: Oct. 16 to Nov. 8
Where: Bluma Appel Theatre, 27 Front St. E.
Tickets: $20-$90 at canstage.com.

Emilia Galotti

When this production first opened in Berlin, it was hailed by critics as "a new era in stage performance." It comes to Ontario via the Deutsches Theatre of Berlin, in German, with English subtitles.
When: Nov. 6 to 9
Where: Avon Theatre, Stratford Festival, 90 Downie St., Stratford.
Tickets: $33 to $102 at 1-800-567-1600 or stratfordfestival.ca

The Sound of Music

The summer-long buildup over casting the leading role in this beloved Rodgers & Hammerstein musical on the CBC program How Do You Solve a Problem Like Maria? has increased an already keen audience appetite to see this show. Do Re Mi, My Favorite Things, Climb Every Mountain and all the other wonderful songs from the score are here to be enjoyed once again. The London production was lovely to look at and delightful to hear. This one, starring Vancouver's Elicia MacKenzie as Maria, promises to be just as good and possibly even better.
When: Oct. 15 to Jan. 11
Where: Princess of Wales Theatre, 300 King St. W.
Tickets: $40 to $200 at 416-872-1212 or mirvish.com

A Chorus Line

One of the longest running musicals in Broadway history was given a reverential and accurate revival in New York two years ago and now it's on tour. This story of how people put themselves "on the line" for something they believe in is as relevant as ever. The glorious Marvin Hamlisch score and the brilliant Michael Bennett staging are perfectly preserved. Although nothing will equal the original cast, this tour is probably as good a version as you're ever going to get.
When: Oct. 28 to Nov. 30
Where: Canon Theatre, 244 Victoria St.
Tickets: $55 to $99 at 416-872-1212 or mirvish.com

Cinderella: the Sillylicious Family Musical

Ross Petty's spoofy musicals are now an integral part of the holiday season. This year's entry (top left) looks unusually tempting, with Petty as the Wicked Stepmother, Adam Brazier and Dan Chameroy as the Evil Stepsisters, Patty Sullivan as the Fairy Godmother and Degrassi stars Paula Brancati and Jake Epstein as Cinderella and the Prince. An all-star lineup for a wild and crazy time.
When: Nov. 28 to Jan. 4
Where: Elgin Theatre, 189 Yonge St.
Tickets: $49 to $77 at 416-872-5555 or rosspetty.com

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Psycho on the stage

American Psycho is reportedly heading to Broadway. Theatre bosses are said to be adapting the story for the New York stage with the help of the film's producers, who will serve as consultants. FEMALEFIRST.CO.UK

Court rules against punitive damages in LOTR suit

FILM A judge has barred the estate of Lord of the Rings author J.R.R. Tolkien from seeking punitive damages against the studio that brought the trilogy to the big screen.

Tolkien's heirs claim New Line Cinema has failed to pay any royalties from the estimated $6 billion US they say the movie has grossed worldwide. The lawsuit is seeking more than $150 million in compensatory damages based on breach of contract, fraud and other claims. Los Angeles Superior Court Judge Ann I. Jones also ruled that the estate and Tolkien heirs have established a legal basis for the fraud claim against New Line.

PIERRE VINET/NEW LINE PRODUCTIONS

Elijah Wood as Frodo in New Line Cinema's The Lord of the Rings: Fellowship of the Ring.

As part of that allegation, the lawsuit claims New Line sent millions of dollars to Time Warner Inc.'s AOL, improperly claiming they were for advertising expenses.

The lawsuit also claims the studio built production offices and facilities in New Zealand and listed them as expenses for the Lord of the Rings films, although the heirs claim they are now being used for other New Line projects.

New Line now has 10 days to answer the lawsuit. A trial has been scheduled for October 2009. The studio was absorbed into Warner Bros. Entertainment in February.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CHRIS WEEKS/WIREIMAGE

Musician Dave Matthews, left, and author Chuck Palahniuk chat at this year's premiere of Choke at the Sundance Film Festival.

Matthews' new role as film producer

Musician was a driving force behind Choke

Dave Matthews has acted in a few films, but the Grammy-winning musician has been playing a behind-the-scenes role in Hollywood of late — that of film producer.

The singer of his namesake band co-founded ATO Pictures and has served mostly as a silent partner. But in the company's latest film, Choke, the musician was adamant that ATO do more than help finance the film.

"I felt very strongly about us being connected to the project. ... I loved the script," Matthews told The Associated Press during a phone interview before performing with his band in the Brazilian city of Manaus.

Choke, which was released Friday by Fox Searchlight Pictures, is an adaptation of a novel from Fight Club author Chuck Palahniuk.

The film, which stars Sam Rockwell, is about a sex addict named Victor Mancini who likes to pretend he's choking in restaurants to garner strangers' sympathy and then fleece them.

When Mancini isn't doing that, hooking up with fellow sex addicts or working at a historical theme park, he's trying to cajole the truth of his paternity from his mentally ill mother.

Matthews doesn't appear in the film, but he championed it once he read the script and the book.

"What Chuck manages to do is make an unusual story not unusual, and I think the film makes that (as well)," Matthews said. "There's a very sweet story at the core of it: This young man's struggle to find out who he is."

Last year, ATO produced Joshua, a film about a musical child whose family life dramatically alters once his baby sister is born. Matthews wrote the song that the child character croons as the film draws to a close.

For Choke, Matthews worked on planning and supporting the movie.

"My involvement was much more in discussing how to get the film done ... (being) really more of a cheerleader," he said.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Posh drops suit against denim label

CELEBRITY FASHION Victoria Beckham has dropped her lawsuit against American fashion label Rock + Republic over alleged loss of earnings, *imdb.com* reports. The former Spice Girl signed a deal with the company in 2004 to make her dVb brand jeans, but split from the firm two years later amid reports of a fallout with owner Michael Ball.

BRYAN BEDDER/GETTY

Beckham

She filed suit against the firm's executives at London's High Court earlier this year, claiming they owe her up to $100 million US in lost wages.

Beckham's claim was due to be heard before a judge next month, but she has now abandoned the case.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Daddy dearest
Lindsay Lohan is reportedly seeking legal protection from her father, because his angry rants against her and girlfriend Samantha Ronson have made her scared of him. IMDB.COM

Fey continues SNL appearances in pursuit of Palin parody

Tina Fey reprised her role as Sarah Palin on Saturday Night Live, again appearing as the Republican vice-presidential candidate in an opening sketch.

Saturday night's show, the third of the season for the NBC comedy program, brought back the season premiere duo of Fey and Amy Poehler, who opened the season with a memorable sketch featuring Fey as Palin and Poehler as Hillary Clinton. This time around, Poehler played CBS' Katie Couric, parodying the interview with Palin last week. Fey ratcheted up her performance of Senator John McCain's running mate by satirizing her foreign affairs experience.

NBCU PHOTO BANK
Fey in her first Palin sendup.

When Poehler's Couric pushed Fey's Palin to specifically discuss how she would help facilitate democracy abroad, Fey gave in: "Katie, I'd like to use one of my lifelines. I want to phone a friend." When a confused Poehler informed her that that wasn't how the interview worked, Fey's Palin responded — alluding to one of the governor's most quoted lines from the interview — "Well, in that case, I'm just gonna have to get back to ya."

Fey, a former cast member and head writer of SNL, has seemingly been thrust back into regular appearances on the program despite her full-time gig with NBC's 30 Rock. She is widely considered to look like Palin, and SNL executive producer Lorne Michaels persuaded her to ride the show's hot hand.

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Donovan divorces

Actor Tate Donovan's divorce from wife Corinne Kingsbury, was finalized last month, court documents confirm. The former O.C. star filed for divorce back in December after almost two years of marriage, citing irreconcilable differences. **PEOPLE.COM**

Grammer: World a 'mean place'

PEOPLE Actor Kelsey Grammer won't fulfill his dream of running for the White House because he couldn't cope with the extra publicity, imdb.com reports. Grammer, a Republican, already struggles to deal with the interest from media following his June heart attack.

Grammer

"I have (thought about running for office) but my devotion to my family and to their privacy has overruled that desire," he said. "It's become a very mean world. The Internet has not made the world a better place, it's made it a meaner place." **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

A little unhealthy debate?

LIKE BOXING WITHOUT KNOCKOUTS: Political debates, like awards shows, are the worst kinds of television that can actually deliver ratings that better programs dream of getting; the notable exception to this rule being the Emmys, which creates its own rule — people love watching TV, but hate watching people get awards for making TV. But I digress.

Republican presidential candidate John McCain followed his Democratic opponent Barack Obama at the top of last Friday's first U.S. presidential debate with a downbeat announcement that Senator Ted Kennedy was in the hospital, and went on to admit that "I've been not feeling too great about a lot of things lately." He might have been striving to be honest — a questionable tactic for a politician — or bogart the emotional Q factor from Obama, but his elegiac bummer gambit was a sackcloth robe compared to his opponent's shiny space suit set of solutions.

Even if you're well-informed about the real issues at hand, or steeped in partisan sentiment and unlikely to budge by the time you cast your ballot, the U.S. presidential debates are pageants of style and sentiment whose effect and appeal almost supersede the geography of facts or party loyalty, at least while they're being hot off the airwaves, and for their vivid but brief wake in the news cycle.

Both candidates took credit for being Cassandras of the economic crisis that set the agenda for the debate, warning of trouble to come. Both men favour tax cuts, and the financial bailout, but as sure as regret follows a binge, the inevitable "but..." transforms the momentary illusion of consensus into the usual ideological Babel.

L.A. Weekly columnist Nikki Finke reported this weekend that the major movie studios have put part of the blame for this weekend's substandard opening box office on the debates; whatever you think about the style or substance of the debates, the idea that an appreciable percentage of 18-34-year-olds stayed home on Friday night to watch the presidential debates can't help but cautiously rekindle the dim embers of civic optimism.

If McCain walked away from the debates with any real advantage visible to the disinterested observer — whoever they might be these days — it was a few zingers ("It's hard to reach across the aisle from that far left.") and the diminishment of Obama's reputation as an orator. You can tell when the Democratic candidate is departing from his script by eruptions of stammering, hobbled grammar and diminished vocabulary, but the script is still what decided voters — on both sides — are intent on hearing. In any case, Thursday's vice-presidential debates are likely to be the style battle that will pull in ratings, and the movies studios should probably be grateful that they aren't taking place a day later.

Rick McGinnis writes about music, movies, books and television, but not opera.

IntelleVision

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS/ PHOTO

U.S. presidential candidates John McCain, left, and Barack Obama, centre, chat with moderator Jim Lehrer after Friday's debate.

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TO	Vu	SC	C	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00
9/29/08 primetime	265	353	2	TVO	Time Team "Cirencester"		The Agenda With Steve Paikin		Midsomer Murders		For King and Country		Agenda-Paikin
	211	331	3	GTV	ET Canada	Entertainment	Prison Break "Blow Out"		Heroes (HDTV) (N)		Life (N)		News (N)
	215	343	4	OMN1	Two/Half Men	The Simpsons	News (N)		Vivere Il	News (N)	The Simpsons	King of the Hill	Metropia
	210	302	6	CBC	Coronation St.	Jeopardy! (N)	Dragons' Den (N)		The Border "Stop Loss"		CBC News: The National		The Hour
	214	344	7	CITY	Law & Order: SVU		Chuck (N)		Celebrity Fit Club (N)		Curb-Enthsm	Role	News (N)
	212	313	8	CTV	eTalk	Hollywood	Dancing With the Stars (HDTV) (Live)				(10:01) CSI: Miami (N)		News (N)
	218	345	11	E!	The Insider (N)	E! News	'Til Death	How I Met	Do Not Disturb	Worst Week	(10:01) Boston Legal		News (N)
	137	763	13	TFO	Panorama		Carnets d'expédition		*Le Regard d'Ulysse* ★★★ (1995, Drame) Harvey Keitel, Maia Morgenstern.				
	-	-	14	-	Cold Case		News (N)		News (N)		Two/Half Men	Friends	My Postpartum
	213	326	15	SUN	Becker	George Lopez	Funniest Pets	Funniest Pets	One Tree Hill (HDTV) (N)		To Serve and Protect		Grill Rm.
	-	387	16	CBS	Inside Edition	Hollywood	Big Bang Th	How I Met	Two/Half Men	Worst Week	CSI: Miami (HDTV) (N)		News (N)
	-	385	17	NBC	The Insider (N)	Entertainment	Chuck (N)		Heroes (HDTV) (N)		Life (N)		News (N)
	-	386	18	ABC	Wheel-Fortune	Jeopardy! (N)	Dancing With the Stars (HDTV) (Live)				(10:01) Boston Legal		News
	219	346	20	ACH-B	Robson Arms	TMZ (N)	Sarah Connor Chronicles		Two/Half Men	Two/Half Men	The Mentalist (HDTV) (N)		News (N)
	-	-	28	FOX	Judge Judy (N)	Two/Half Men	Sarah Connor Chronicles		Prison Break "Blow Out"		Seinfeld	Two/Half Men	The Simpsons
	-	388	61	PBS	News-Lehrer	Time Goes By	Antiques Roadshow		History Detectives		Debating Our Destiny II		Business Rpt.
	297	652	330	WPX	Two/Half Men	Family Guy	Gossip Girl (HDTV) (N)		One Tree Hill (HDTV) (N)		CW11 News at Ten		Two/Half Men
	296	654	331	SBK	Wheel-Fortune	Jeopardy! (N)	Dr. Phil (HDTV)		WBZ News (N)	'70s Show	Frasier	Frasier	Punk'd
	298	653	332	TLA	Jamie Foxx	Wayans Bros.	My Wife-Kids	According-Jim	Family Guy	Family Guy	Two/Half Men	Two/Half Men	Gossip Girl (N)
news	502	390	26	NW	Your Turn With Elizabeth May		Canada Votes: Your Turn		CBC News: The National		Mr. President (N)		CBC News
	500	500	33	CNN	Lou Dobbs Tonight		CNN Election Center		Larry King Live		Anderson Cooper 360 (HDTV)		
	509	504	79	CNB	Kudlow & Company		On the Money		The Apprentice		The Big Idea With Deutsch		Mad Money
sports	405	417	22	net	Best Damn Top 50 Special		Jays: Stretch Drive		Hockeycentral	Jays	Sportsnet Connected		Hockey Central
	400	400	30	TSN	Monday Night Countdown (HDTV) (Live)			NFL Football Baltimore Ravens at Pittsburgh Steelers. From Heinz Field in Pittsburgh.				
	411	457	58	OLN	Ed's Up	Videos	The Amazing Race		Mantracker (N)		Departures		Pilot Guides
	417	406	81	SC	Pinks (HDTV)	Pass Time	This Week in NASCAR (N)		Big Shots: Titans at the Tee		Barrett-Jackson		Pinks (HDTV)
family	551	542	25	YTV	Malcolm-Mid.	Home Improve.	Malcolm-Mid.	Fresh Prince	Futurama	Prank Patrol	Mystery Hnt.	Adrenaline Proj	Mystery Hnt.
	554	544	45	TEL	George-Jungle	Bugs Bunny & Tweety Show		6teen	Total Drama	Futurama	American Dad	Robot Chicken	Life's a Zoo
	556	540	51	FAM	Wizards-Place	That's-Raven	Zack & Cody	Natural-Sadie	Han. Montana	Life Derek	Ned's School	Cory in House	Zack & Cody
cable variety	602	567	27	W	Will & Grace	Friends	How Clean	House	Love It or List It (N)		Real Est	Kim	Save Us-House
	570	580	29	MM	Legally Blonde		MuchTopTens		MuchNews	The NewMusic	Legally Blonde		MuchVibe
	615	520	31	A&E	CSI: Miami (HDTV)		Intervention "Brooke"		Intervention (HDTV)		Paranormal	Paranormal	Paranormal
	700	800	35	TLN	Centrovetrine	Sky TG 24	Se Forte Maestro		Distretto Di Polizia		Raymond	Raymond	George Lopez
	571	581	36	MMM	mmmtop	Revival	Listed		Where You At	Revival	Gene Simmons	Gene Simmons	Party of Five
	575	583	38	CMT	Karaoke Star "Toronto, ON"		Karaoke Star "Best of"		Reba	Hope & Faith	Home Improve.	Home Improve.	Karaoke Star
	616	521	39	SHO	Love-Death	Love-Death	Painkiller Jane		Kenny-Spenny	Rent-A-Goalie	My Name Is Earl (HDTV)		The Office
	620	523	40	BVO	Desperate Housewives		Baby Ballroom		Defying Gravity		Ahead of the Curve		Law & Order
	601	562	41	SLC	End of Leash	ET Canada	End of Leash	Spoiled Rotten	Wedding SOS	Party Mamas	Project Runway		End of Leash
	522	506	43	HIS	NCIS "Cover Story"		Battle 360		Tank Overhaul		NCIS "Cover Story"		Crime Stories
	625	548	44	COM	Air Farce	Just for Laughs		Corner Gas	The Simpsons	South Park	The Cho Show	Simple Life	Daily Show
	600	564	46	H&G	House Hunters	Property Virgin	My First Place	Home to Stay	Property Virgin	Marriage	Income Prop.	House Hunters	Holmes-Homes
	294	529	47	TBS	House-Payne	House-Payne	*Forces of Nature* ★★ (1999, Romance-Comedy)				Cheers	Family Guy	Family Guy
	576	582	49	BET	106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live		*The Salon* ★★ (2005, Comedy) Vivica A. Fox.				Somebodies	Access	Judge Karen
	627	528	50	SPC	Lost "Hearts and Minds"		Star Trek		Battlestar Galactica		Eureka "I Do Over"		Stargate SG-1
	581	566	52	MTV	The Hills	After	Canada's Next Top Model		Exiled	The Hills	The Hills	After	MTV Live
	618	524	54	TROP	TV Made, Do It	Very Bad Men		What Happen?	Make or Break	TV Made, Do It	Planet Soap	Reality	Final 24
	603	561	56	FOOD	The Main	Chef at Home	Restaurant Makeover		Good Eats	Ace of Cakes	Kitchen Nightmares		Restaurant
	261	394	60	V	Murder, She Wrote		Prime Minister	May-December	McLeod's Daughters (N)		Benmergui-Isr	Benmergui-Isr	Six Days-June
	621	527	63	STR	The Ellen DeGeneres Show		TMZ (N)	eTalk	Katie & Peter: Next Chapter		The Tonight Show-Jay Leno		TMZ
	553	546	65	TRE	Wonder Pets	Nght Grdn	Bucket-Dinos	Franklin	Little Bear	Miss Spider	Comfy Couch	Rolie Polie Olie	Beren. Bears
	115	711	101	TVA	Les Auditions de Star Acadé		Annie et ses hommes (N) (SC)		Dr. House (HDTV) (SC)		TVA 22 heures	(10:45) Denis Lévesque	
	126	730	102	RDI	RDI en direct	Élections	Grands reportages (SC)		Le Téléjournal (SC)		RDI en direct	Le National	Le Téléjournal
	526	507	249	CLT	Judging Amy		Voices in Time	Ministers	The Color of War		Mysterious Ways		Judging Amy
	300	601	301	M1	(6:25) *Abducted* (2007)		Stargate Atlantis (N)		Californication	Little Britain	Brotherhood		Atlantis
	305	612	306	PIX	(7:15) *Jericho Mansions* ★★ (2003, Suspense)				*The Matrix* ★★★ (1999, Science Fiction) Keanu Reeves.				

critics' corner

Jericho Mansions

Most people love a good mystery. A big pile of confusion — not so much. This 2003 thriller from director Alberto Sciamma definitely falls in the latter column. James Caan stars as the superintendent of a crumbling apartment building who becomes the prime suspect in a tenant's murder. Thing is, this guy's got so many issues he can't be entirely sure he's innocent. From there it just gets weirder — weird enough, in fact, to have David Lynch fans scratching their heads. Never mind. 7:15 PM on PIX

The Border

Forty years ago, fleeing to Canada was common practice among young men trying to avoid the U.S. military draft. Although the draft is long gone, reluctant soldiers still seek sanctuary north of the border. That's what happens in the season premiere, as the ICS is confronted with three U.S. military deserters seeking refugee status. James McGowan and Sofia Milos star in "Stop Loss." 9 PM on CBC

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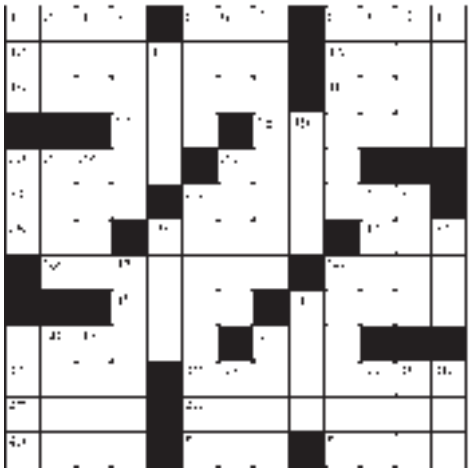


Crossword across

1 Urban fleet
5 Sleep phenom, for short
8 Afflictions
12 Huge snake
14 $50 "Monopoly" payment
15 Labyrinth critter
16 Notion
17 Fleur-de- —
18 Straighten things
20 Alumni
23 Conflagration
24 Charged particles
25 Least
28 Roscoe
29 Cartons
30 Vast expanse
32 Mosque tower
34 Mends cuffs
35 — and crafts
36 Praise
37 No alternative?
40 The stuff we breathe
41 Lambs' dams
42 Ores
47 Unescorted
48 Lift
49 Entreaty
50 Tier
51 Bigfoot's Asian cousin

Crossword down

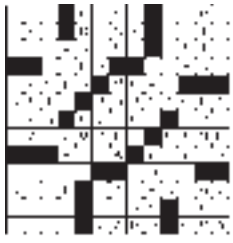
1 Rotating part
2 Blackbird
3 Proscribe
4 Berates
5 Genetic acids, briefly
6 School's Web address suffix
7 Strict disciplinarian
8 In the same place (Lat.)
9 Gentlewoman
10 Stead
11 Rebuff a masher
13 Cole Porter's "Miss — Regrets"
19 Eye part
20 Showbiz job
21 Wander
22 Opposed to
23 Repairs
25 Charlie McCarthy's pal Snerd
26 Secondhand
27 Note to the staff
29 Say "bow-wow"
31 Donkey
33 Extreme disgust
34 "Yippee!"
36 Ukraine capital
37 Iodine-rich seaweed
38 MPs' quarry
39 Part of N.B.
40 From the beginning
43 UN work agcy.
44 Chowed down on
45 Parcel of land
46 — Lanka

Sudoku

HOW TO PLAY: Digits 1 through 9 will appear once in each zone – one zone is an outlined 3x3 grid within the larger puzzle grid. There are nine zones in the puzzle. Do not enter a digit into a box if it already appears elsewhere in the same zone, row across or column down the entire puzzle.

	2		8		4		5	
	7	8	1		3	9	2	
9			5		1			8
		1	6		9	2		
3			4		7			5
	1	3	2		6	5	4	
	5		7		8		3	

PREVIOUS DAY'S CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU ANSWERS:



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2	3	6	7	9	8	4	5	1
7	1	9	2	4	5	3	6	8
1	2	7	6	5	4	8	3	9
8	5	3	9	7	2	1	4	6
9	6	4	8	1	3	2	7	5

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SUDOKU SOLVE TIME:

Under 13 min .....Genius
13-17 min.....Scholar
17-21 min .....Smart
21-25 min.....Not bad
25+ min.....Keep practising

Recipe of the day

COOK SMART FOR A HEALTHY HEART

Asian Pork and Cabbage Rolls

INGREDIENTS:

1 lb (500 g) extra-lean ground pork
1 cup (250 mL) canned water chestnuts, drained and finely chopped
2 tsp (10 mL) five-spice powder
1 tbsp (15 mL) finely grated fresh ginger
2 scallions, finely chopped
2 tbsp (25 mL) soy sauce
2 garlic cloves, crushed
1 egg, beaten
8 large green cabbage leaves
2 cups (500 mL) hot reduced-sodium chicken broth
2 tsp (10 mL) flour
1 tsp (5 mL) chili sauce, or to taste (optional)
Garnish: Curled strips of scallion

METHOD:

1. Place pork in a bowl and add water chestnuts, five-spice powder, ginger, scallions, soy sauce, garlic and egg. Mix thoroughly with your hands, then divide into 8 equal portions.
2. Cut tough stalks from cabbage leaves with sharp knife. Place some pork mixture in centre of each cabbage leaf, then wrap leaf to enclose the filling.
3. Pour broth into the bottom section of large steamer. Arrange cabbage rolls, join side down, in one layer in top section. Cover and steam for 15 minutes or until the cabbage is tender and rolls are firm when pressed. Remove top section from the steamer and keep cabbage rolls hot.
4. Mix flour with 2 tbsp (25 mL) water, then stir into broth. Bring to a boil and simmer, stirring constantly, until slightly thickened. Add chili sauce if desired.
5. Serve cabbage rolls with sauce spooned over and sprinkled with curls of scallion.

SERVES 4

rd.ca

For nutritional information on this and other great recipes, go to **rd.ca** or check out **Key Ingredients in this month's Reader's Digest, on newsstands now!**

Horoscopes

AVATAR VENUS

ARIES
MARCH 21-APRIL 20
You can enjoy strange events in weird places. Don't worry about habits that are of no concern. A man's desperate plan can be easily pulled off.

TAURUS
APRIL 21-MAY 21
A relative brings you joy and laughter. Tell the truth or you'll be caught in a foolhardy lie. A chance for success is fulfilled by taking a risk.

GEMINI
MAY 22-JUNE 21
A debate will have you chuckling, if you heed advice. A coworker tells an incredible story. Spend more time tending to your promises.

CANCER
JUNE 22-JULY 22
The support of your friends improves a situation. Somebody's phoning will get irritating. Think hard before having a harsh reaction.

LEO
JULY 23-AUG 23
Focus on making a plan for your destiny. You'll get honest praise when you earn it. A nice man calls with good news.

VIRGO
AUG 24-SEPT 22
A peculiar tale is a distraction in the face of chaos. Emotional support is only a phone call away. Take notes whenever someone complains.

LIBRA
SEPT 23-OCT 23
No intervention is needed in a doubtful situation. You reveal the truth in spite of your desire to hide. You'll be aware of your effect on other people.

SCORPIO
OCT 24-NOV 22
A major relationship obstacle will be obliterated. An earth-shaking announcement is important to a traveller. Look around to find private space.

SAGITTARIUS
NOV 23-DEC 21
Satisfaction comes from thrilling visitors. Inspire hope in a gloomy girl. Don't be ashamed of a guilty reaction.

CAPRICORN
DEC 22-JAN 20
Don't give your power away by being angry. Discreetly explain the ending of an association. Someone's disappointment results from your message.

AQUARIUS
JAN 21-FEB 18
Be serious when it comes to being honest. Strong words are said to someone who matters. Avoid over-medicating when you're weary and ill.

PISCES
FEB 19-MARCH 20
It's time to do the right thing. Start preparations to enhance a group's prestige. Show appreciation for an older man's help.

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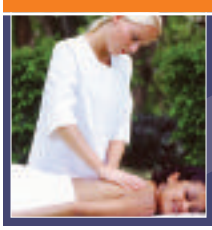
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Gervais to meet Oscar?
Comedian Ricky Gervais has been tipped to host next year's Academy Awards, after his laugh-raising stint at the recent Emmy Awards. IMDB.COM

Celebrity Buzz

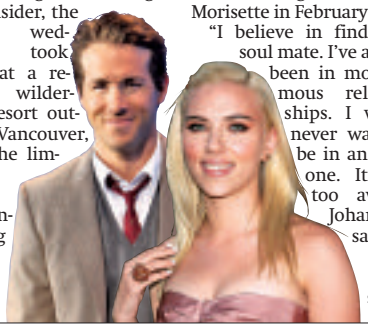
Johansson and Reynolds wed

MARRIAGE Officially tying the knot, actors Scarlett Johansson and Ryan Reynolds exchanged vows during a Canadian wedding over the weekend, celebrity-gossip.net reports.

According to an Us magazine insider, the "small wedding took place at a remote wilderness resort outside Vancouver, with the limited guest list including Scarlett's mother, Melanie Sloan, and her brother, Adrian Johansson." Announcing their engagement back in May, the couple have been dating ever since Reynolds, 31, broke off his engagement with singer Alanis Morisette in February 2007.

"I believe in finding a soul mate. I've always been in monogamous relationships. I would never want to be in an open one. It'd be too awful," Johansson said.

METRO NEWS SERVICE



Moore's fake husband

INTERNET Julianne Moore is waging an online battle with a mystery man who claims he was once married to her, imdb.com reports.

The Oscar nominee is baffled by a posting on the Internet Movie Database which claims she was married to Sundar Chakravarthy from 1983-1985. And she wants the world to know she has never met the web phantom.

"I was in an interview, and a journalist said, 'You've been married three times.' And I said, 'No.' She said, 'It's on the internet,' so I checked it out," Moore says. "There's a person online who claims to have been married to me from 1983 to 1985. His name is Sundar Chakravarthy. I've never heard of him."

Moore's real husbands are John Gould Rubin, who she divorced in 1995, and her current spouse Bart Freundlich.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Oprah dismisses Carey appearance

GOSSIP Oprah Winfrey has dismissed reports Mariah Carey has cancelled an appearance on her U.S. chat show on Friday, when she was allegedly set to announce she is pregnant, femalefirst.co.uk reports.

The pop singer was rumoured to have booked an appearance on the show to share the news that she is expecting her first child with husband Nick Cannon, according to Internet reports.

But a representative from Winfrey's production company, Harpo, insists there are no scheduled plans to have Carey on the show either now or in the immediate future.

Meanwhile, Carey's spokesperson has shot down claims the star is pregnant — a rumour that has plagued her since exchanging vows with Cannon in April after a whirlwind romance.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Rihanna has designs on more than umbrellas

FASHION Rihanna is set to follow in the footsteps of fellow pop star Gwen Stefani and launch her own clothing line, femalefirst.co.uk reports.

The singer, who is a frequent front-row guest at runway shows, has confirmed she is working on her own designs.

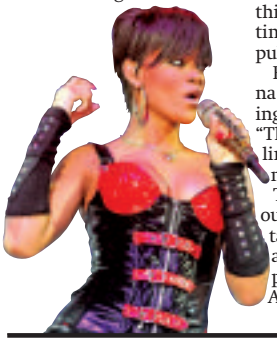
Rihanna has already dabbled in the accessories industry — she put her name to a range of umbrellas earlier this year to coincide with her international hit of the same name.

"I can't say when it will be released, but it's definitely going to happen. I'm not one to rush into anything. I want to take my time," she tells fashion publication Wwd.

Earlier this year, Rihanna hinted she was pondering a fashion line, saying, "There might be a clothing line on the horizon, maybe underwear."

The star has also previously teamed up with retail chain H&M to design a range of casualwear as part of the Fashion Against Aids campaign.

METRO NEWS SERVICES



Mario Lopez pens children's book

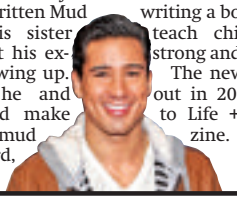
BOOKS Actor Mario Lopez has become the latest star to pen a children's book, imdb.com reports.

The former Saved By The Bell star has written Mud Taco with his sister Marissa, about his experiences growing up.

"For fun, he and Marissa would make tacos out of mud in the backyard, substituting worms for cheese, grass for lettuce and mud for meat," a source says. "Mario would dare Marissa to eat one, but she'd refuse. Now they're writing a book about it to teach children to be strong and creative."

The new book is due out in 2009, according to Life + Style magazine.

METRO NEWS SERVICES



celebrity briefs

Locklear arrested on DWI suspicion

ARREST Actress Heather Locklear was arrested Saturday on suspicion of driving while impaired, TMZ.com reports.

Locklear was pulled over while driving in the Santa Barbara, Calif., area. Law enforcement officers have told TMZ alcohol was not involved, however they are conducting tests to determine if Locklear was under the influence of drugs. She was released on her own recognizance yesterday, without having to post bail.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Doherty claims she was vilified

CELEBRITY Shannen Doherty "cried herself to sleep" when negative stories were written about her, femalefirst.co.uk reports.

The actress, who shot to fame playing Brenda Walsh in '90s TV series Beverly Hills, 90210, attracted unwanted attention as rumours of her onset spats with the show's cast and party-loving lifestyle began to surface.

Doherty claims she was unfairly vilified as she was just behaving like any other teenager. "I got raked over the coals. Many nights I cried myself to sleep over that stuff," Doherty said.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

GETTY IMAGES PHOTOS

"This makes no sense at all..."

by Joe O'Neill

Ryan Reynolds and Scarlett Johansson have gotten hitched.

We can only hope, for the sake of their publicists and our own prurient curiosities, that it is the first of many miserable and publicly contentious marriages for both of them.

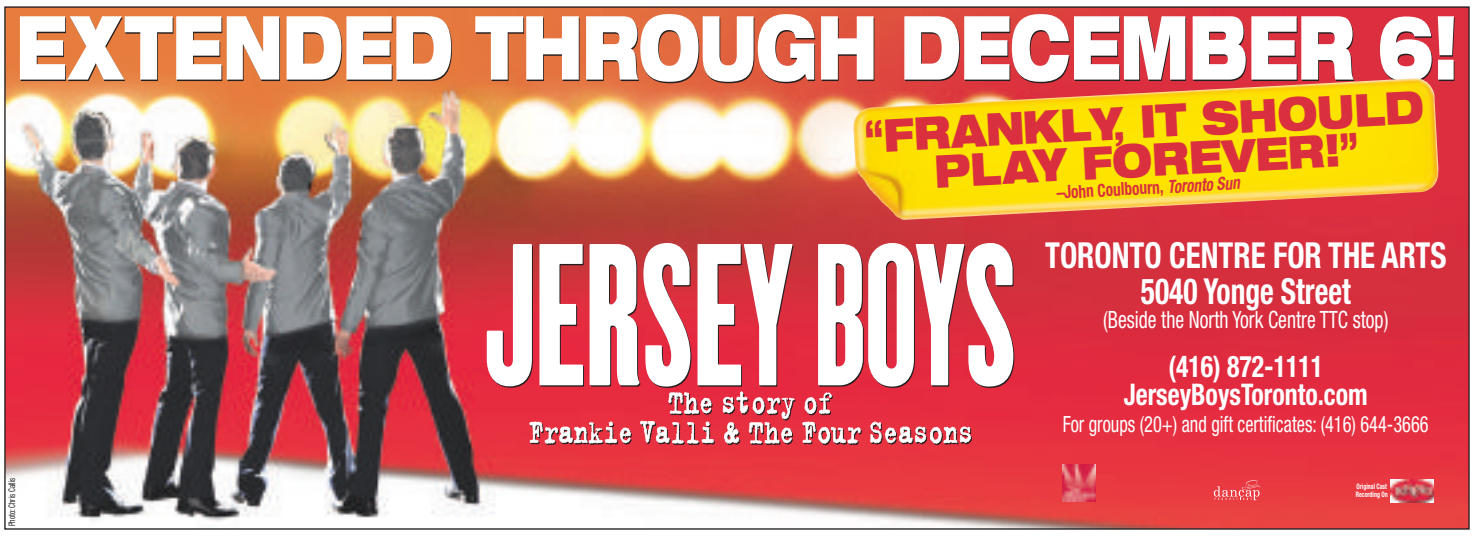
The wedding was a small affair that took place at a remote wilderness resort near Vancouver with a limited guest list that included Bambi, Thumper, Friend Owl, Legolas, Bilbo Baggins, Gollum, and Bigfoot. It is unknown at this time who was holding the shotgun.

Johansson is American, Reynolds is Canadian. I'm no lawyer, but when an American gets married in Canada and isn't gay, does it even count?

This marriage has taken me by surprise. I thought that the Van Wilder guy would have enough common sense not to cross his ex Alanis Morissette like that. Now, he can expect to have a much less interesting time every time he goes to a movie theatre, and each time he sits down to dinner and the phone rings he's going to worry it's Alanis asking for "Mr. Duplicity." He-ee, he-ee, he-ee oughta know.

As for his bride, I understood that ScarJo was too busy advising Barrack Obama on election strategy to get married.

NEWSDESK@METRONEWS.CA



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